

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MAUELLE SHIREK POST OFFICE  
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 27, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to recognize an unsung hero and political legend in the East Bay area, Ms. Maudelle Shirek.

The legislation we are considering here today, H.R. 438, would name the post office building at 2000 Allston Way in Berkeley after Maudelle Shirek.

It would have been impossible for the House to consider this bill without the timely help of my colleagues, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Government Reform Committee, Congressmen TOM DAVIS and HENRY WAXMAN. I thank the gentlemen for their assistance.

I would also like to thank Majority Leader TOM DELAY, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, and Democratic Whip STENY HOYER for their help in bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, this special tribute is long overdue. In fact, in June 2003, the Berkeley City Council passed a resolution recommending the post office naming. I am pleased that we will finally honor Maudelle Shirek today.

Maudelle Shirek was Berkeley's 94-year-old former vice mayor. Until last fall, Maudelle was one of California's longest-serving elected officials.

As one of my political heroes, she continues to fight for equality and social justice for all. She not only helped me get involved in politics but also inspired my predecessor, Congressman Ronald V. Dellums, to run for Congress. Her understanding of the importance in investing in people has won the solid support of voters in her district and admirers around the world as an international leader for peace and justice.

A granddaughter of slaves, Maudelle left her rural Arkansas home and came to California in the middle of World War II. Before long she was campaigning for fair housing and other civil rights for African Americans. She helped found two Berkeley senior centers, and until her health started to slow her down, she helped deliver meals to shut-in seniors; or if it was a Tuesday, did all the shopping for lunches at the New Light Senior Center, which she founded nearly 30 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, Maudelle Shirek entered elected politics in 1983 after being forced to retire from a senior center simply for having reached the age of 72. Soon after her election to Berkeley City Council, she helped end the discriminatory policy of mandatory retirement in Berkeley city agencies.

Maudelle refuses to accept arbitrary limitations. It is one of the things we all respect about her. Maudelle remains one of the best examples of how one person can make a difference.

Ms. Maudelle Shirek is a fearless and inspirational woman who for over 60 years has tirelessly fought to make this world a fair and just place. She has spoken for the voiceless and has been a staunch defender of our basic civil rights.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in supporting this resolution, H.R. 438.

The world would be a better place if we had more Maudelles.

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF  
AUGUST WILSON

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my recognition and respect to the extraordinary contributions of the world renowned playwright August Wilson who died October 2, 2005 of liver cancer. Mr. Wilson was a Tony Award winner and two time Pulitzer Prize winner whose plays not only chronicled and captured the harsh realities African American families faced throughout the 1900s, they have provided insight into Black life, depicting its struggles to overcome discrimination and poverty with dignity and nobility amidst the pain and the struggle that all communities are able to appreciate. His plays poetically depict the effects of slavery and oppression on Black Americans in every decade of the 20th century, and show that despite the harshness of life, this crucible produced great strength and resilience that have enabled us to overcome.

August Wilson was born on April 27, 1945 as Frederick August Kittel, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He later changed his name after his father left out of respect for his mother. Mr. Wilson grew up on "the Hill," which was a predominantly Black and poor neighborhood in Pittsburgh. It was the daily experiences of this African American community that inspired the content of his plays. At 13 years of age he moved to predominantly White Hazelwood, but he did not forget the unique culture of the Hill, especially when he had to suffer the racial taunts in Hazelwood. The racial discrimination that Wilson faced led Wilson, at the age of 15 to drop out of high school because his teacher couldn't believe that a Black student could create a well written term paper and accused him of plagiarism. This however, did not impede his thirst for knowledge or his love for writing. With diligence and self discipline, August Wilson continued his education through self-study at Carnegie Library. He began reading Black literature and other Black works, like Richard Wright, Langston Hughes, Ralph Ellison, and Arna Bontemps.

His hopes of becoming a writer were quickly challenged when his mother urged him to become an attorney. Disapproving of his dreams for a writing career, his mother forced him to leave the house. In 1963, Mr. Wilson enlisted

in the U.S. Army only to be discharged in 1964. Determined to continue his pursuit for a writing career, he invested in the purchase of his first typewriter and moved into a rooming house in Pittsburgh. To support himself he worked a series of odd "blue collar" jobs, like short-order cook, dishwasher, porter, stock boy, and gardener. Starting out as a poet, his poems were published in the late 1960s and early 70s in several periodicals, one being the Negro Digest created by the late John Johnson.

However, it was not until August Wilson heard the voice of legendary Bessie Smith's record "Nobody in Town Can Bake a Sweet Jellyroll Like Mine," he realized that it was his responsibility to carry the torch of his ancestors and assume the role as the representative of Black American culture, telling the world our history and dignifying our struggle. Hearing the blues motivated, challenged, and empowered the young poet to document Black American culture in his writings. Wilson describe this epiphany as the "Universe stuttered and everything fell to a new place . . . I cannot describe or even relate what I felt . . . it was a birth, a baptism, a resurrection, and a redemption all rolled up in one. It was the beginning of my consciousness that I was a representative of a culture and the carrier of some very valuable antecedents . . . I had been given a world that contained my image . . . The ideas of self-determination, self-respect, and self-defense . . . are still very much a part of my life as I sit down and write. I have stood [these ideas] up in the world of Bessie Smith on the ground captured by the Blues. Having started my beginning consciousness there, it is no surprise that I would mature and my efforts would come to fruition on that same ground." As a result he established two organizations that promoted Black American writing: the Center Avenue Poets Theatre Workshop, and Black Horizons. Plus, he continued writing plays chronicling different experiences that African Americans faced.

His big break was the debut of the 1982 play "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," the first of a 10-drama series that would chronicle each decade of the Twentieth Century, which premiered at Broadway's Cort Theater on October 11, 1984. Set in Chicago in 1927, the play focuses on White record companies' exploitation of Black musicians. This play mirrored the images and positions that African Americans faced in a society dominated by White racism. The beauty of the play, grabbed national attention earning Mr. Wilson several Tony nominations, and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award. "Fences", however, a play depicting a 1950s Black family's personal and economic issues, grossed a record \$11 million in a year, which broke the record for nonmusical plays. As a result, Wilson became The Chicago Tribune's Artist of the Year; the play won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play, four Tony Awards for Best Play, Best Director, Best Actor and Best Featured Actress; and a Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Finally, "The Piano Lesson," inspired

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

by Romare Beardon's painting illustrated family conflict over an heirloom built by a slave ancestor. This 1986 play earned the New York Drama Critics Award, the Tony for Best Play, the Drama Desk Award, the American Theatre Critics Outstanding Play Award, and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Wilson's subsequent plays continued to receive accolades and awards, solidifying his position in American Theatrical history.

August Wilson was not only a champion of Black America by representing and dignifying African American culture during a time when it wasn't otherwise appreciated; he was a pioneer in the world of literature and theatre. Although his body is no longer with us, his work and his impact on American History will continue on for posterity. On October 17, Broadway's Virginia Theatre will be renamed the August Wilson Theatre in Mr. Wilson's honor. His final play, "Radio Golf" is scheduled to be produced on Broadway during the 2006-2007 season. Mr. Wilson is survived by his wife, Constanza Romero; their daughter, Azula, 8, and an adult daughter from a previous marriage, Sakina Ansari.

I submit to you an article from the October 4, 2005 edition of the Washington Post, illustrating the type of man and impact August Wilson had on this country.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 4, 2005]

THE CYCLE OF AUGUST WILSON'S LIFE

(By Peter Marks)

The death of August Wilson does not simply leave a hole in the American theater, but a huge, yawning wound, one that will have to wait to be stitched closed by some expansive, poetic dramatist yet to emerge.

To say that Wilson was the greatest African American playwright the nation has produced—as some inevitably do—is to limit the scope of his significance as a contributor to the country's dramatic heritage. Wilson wrote scathingly about racism, yes, in "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," and the indelible scars of slavery, in "The Piano Lesson" and "Gem of the Ocean." He also wrote about the Oedipal conflict of fathers and sons ("Fences") and the universal quest for the easy score ("Two Trains Running"). His concerns were as multifaceted as the hard-pressed people he wrote about.

Over the past 20 years, Wilson had staked a legitimate claim to the title of nation's most important dramatist. During that time he won two Pulitzers and a Tony, and among his plays he polished off at least three that will rank among the classics: "Ma Rainey," "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" and "The Piano Lesson," along with what will perhaps endure as his favorite with audiences: "Fences," the story of an embittered former baseball prospect, played on Broadway by James Earl Jones.

All this may not have meant as much as it did in the days when playwrighting giants roamed the countryside, when a new play by Tennessee Williams or Arthur Miller or Eugene O'Neill had the power to galvanize public discourse, and even land an actor on the cover of a national magazine. We've moved away, sad to say, from the era of the stage as a truly vital pulpit. In the commercial realm, Wilson's plays were usually not moneymakers. But the fact that he could consistently count on clicking the "send" button and having a play end up in the in box of Broadway—even in this lean and inhospitable time for serious drama—stamps him as a theater man of nothing but consequence.

Wilson died ludicrously young on Sunday, at the age of 60 in his adoptive home town of

Seattle, where he wrote plays, big, gar-  
rulous, angry, lyrical, ponderous, often beautiful plays, in an office in his basement. He went public with his terminal liver cancer a little more than a month ago and when he did, he came forward with a breathtaking serenity. He pronounced himself prepared for what was coming. "I've lived a blessed life," he told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, the paper of the city of his birth, the metropolis that served as backdrop for many of his major plays. "I'm ready."

He cannot, of course, have been content to leave his family, especially his 8-year-old daughter, Azula, whom he proudly told me last December was writing her own plays. Work-wise, however, he may have been expressing a measure of relief, in that he had satisfied the exacting requirements of the towering assignment he had given himself: a cycle of 10 plays, one set in each decade of the 20th century. ("Radio Golf," the last one, has yet to reach New York; its regional debut comes at Center Stage in Baltimore in March.)

Not that he was exactly through with writing. In an interview over breakfast at a diner in the Edison, the modest Times Square tourist hotel that was his longtime New York base, he revealed that he was working on a comedy whose milieu now seems heartbreakingly prescient: Pittsburgh coffin makers.

His dramas are connected by a palpable sense of geography, usually, a rambunctious district of Pittsburgh; by the mordant humor of characters who spit at hardship; by an eye that seemed to see a story taking shape in every soul. They also reveal the acumen of Wilson's ear in the cross currents of language that flow from his characters as if pouring out of deep, lustrous, meandering canals.

He wrote for authentic-sounding stage creatures, and yet his dialogue might have found a place in novels. "Now I'm gonna show you how this goes, where you just a leftover from history," Toledo, the piano player, tells the other Black musicians in dialect in "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom." The play, set in the 1920s, was the first of Wilson's to make it to Broadway. It was an auspicious coming out. Wilson, wrote drama critic Frank Rich in the New York Times at the play's 1984 opening, "sends the entire history of black America down upon our heads."

Wilson returned again and again to the idea of Black America's unique historical inheritance, to reminders of how the South's peculiar institution was not at all a dead memory but a living shadow. As many other characters would in the Wilson pantheon, Toledo offers in "Ma Rainey" his own home-spun history lesson about the African diaspora:

"Everybody come from different places in Africa, right? Come from different tribes and things. Soonawhile they began to make one big stew. You had the carrots, the peas, and potatoes and whatnot over here. And over there, you had the meat, the nuts, the okra, corn . . . and then you mix it up and let it cook right through to get the flavors flowing together. Then you got one thing. You got a stew."

Wilson's own favorite playwright was Chekhov, and you can see how their theatrical stews might simmer well together. Wilson was a conjurer of characters, not an accomplished spinner of plot or master of compression. He was, in fact, legendary for writing one overlong draft after another, and working with a director—most successfully Lloyd Richards, head for many years of the Yale School of Drama—who could help him pare it down. A script was by no means complete once rehearsals began, he told me. He

even liked to seek out actors and ask them what else they needed from him.

He had a reputation for feistiness and a certain amount of ego. The talk of the theater world in 1997 was his Manhattan debate with Robert Brustein, the director, critic and founder of Harvard's American Repertory Theatre, over their disagreement about whether a theater exclusively devoted to Black experience is desirable. Wilson was a passionate advocate of Black theater, and the evening at Town Hall stands as the last occasion on which a philosophical theater argument grabbed headlines.

When I sat down with him late last year, Wilson seemed anything but combative. He was in a pleasant frame of mind, as a playwright might be with the work of grinding out a play completed. The play was "Gem of the Ocean," set in 1904, which as a result became the prologue of the cycle he'd been writing for much of his professional life.

As it happens, the first in the chain was the last he'd ever get to see on Broadway. The chain he'd long promised, and true to his word, the chain he delivered.

HONORING MAUREEN BUFALINO  
AS SHE RECEIVES THE ATHENA  
AWARD FROM THE WILKES-  
BARRE CHAMBER OF BUSINESS  
AND INDUSTRY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Maureen Moran Bufalino, regional president of Omega Bank in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of her receiving the prestigious Athena Award presented annually by the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry.

Mrs. Bufalino is truly deserving of this honor because throughout her career she has exemplified what a true community leader should be.

As a former president of the Junior League of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. Bufalino helped develop many young women for volunteer service within the community. She has served as a role model for businesswomen through her work in the banking industry. And despite her demanding business schedule, she has still found the time to volunteer and serve several non-profit organizations and also raise three children.

She is also a charter member of Circle 200, a regional executive women's networking organization, and is a graduate of the Leadership Wilkes-Barre program.

Mrs. Bufalino serves as vice chair of CityVest Community Development Organization, a group committed to revitalizing Wilkes-Barre's downtown. She is a graduate of King's College.

Mrs. Bufalino was also named one of the top 20 executives under the age of 40 in 2001 by the Northeastern Business Journal, a widely respected business periodical in northeastern Pennsylvania.

On a personal note, I have known Maureen and her family for decades. I know her parents Jack and Maureen are extremely proud of her success, not only as a well-respected professional, but also as a dedicated community

leader and loving mother. It has been a pleasure to watch her develop into such a fine leader for the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mrs. Bufalino on this notable occasion. Her spirit and generosity repeatedly propels her into positions of leadership wherever she goes. An outstanding and highly talented woman, she is a model business and civic leader who epitomizes all the qualities required for a recipient of the Athena Award. Our community in northeastern Pennsylvania is far better off because of Mrs. Bufalino's selfless service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN VETERANS STAND DOWN 2005 EVENT

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the dedicated volunteers of the Southeastern Michigan Veterans Stand Down organization in helping homeless veterans.

Stand Down assists homeless veterans, by working with area service providers, in securing housing, suitable employment and training, helping them return to the mainstream of life's day-to-day activities.

On October 19–20, Southeastern Michigan Stand Down will host a community event geared towards giving homeless veterans the opportunity to begin the process of regaining their self-esteem and their hope. Organized Stand Down events across the country have helped thousands of homeless veterans since 1988.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude, and to recognize the outstanding and selfless volunteers who organize the Stand Down events each year because they are guided by the Stand Down motto: "For Honor, Duty and Country . . . We Leave No Veteran Behind."

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF  
MAYOR LOUIS J. BACCI

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mayor Louis J. Bacci—devoted family man, accomplished community leader, entrepreneur, United States veteran and admired friend and mentor. For 45 years, Mayor Bacci's vision, integrity and love for his constituents reflected throughout the Village of Cuyahoga Heights and miles beyond.

Mayor Bacci was born and raised in Cuyahoga Heights and lived in the same house his entire life. His parents instilled in him a clear sense of service to others and an unwavering devotion to family, friends and community—qualities that defined his public service and framed his life. He consistently went above and beyond the 'call of duty,' and was always willing to assist an individual or family in need.

Mayor Bacci was first elected to represent the Village as a member of Council, a position he held for 16 years. He then went on to serve as mayor for 29 years. Titles, awards and accolades held no significance for Mayor Bacci—his family, friends and Village family always did. Mayor Bacci's easy-going nature, kindness, limitless generosity, sense of humor, vision and insight drew others to him and his advice was consistently sought after by everyone—from the neighbor down the street, to big city mayors.

Unlike many candidates, Mayor Bacci never spent money on campaign literature. Rather, he discussed his intent along the sidewalks and on front porches throughout the Village, offering his homegrown tomatoes and lively conversation. Mayor Bacci was the heart and soul of Cuyahoga Heights, and he afforded every person the same respect and attention, regardless of their social or political status.

Mayor Bacci's tireless efforts in all areas of local government served to elevate the well-being of every resident and business owner within Cuyahoga Heights. His dedication to the youth of the Village was reflected throughout his service as council member and mayor. Mayor Bacci's work and focus on education is reflected in the students and faculty of Cuyahoga Heights School District and is recognized throughout Ohio. His creation of college scholarship programs within the district has given numerous students an opportunity to achieve their academic goals. Cuyahoga Heights School District is ranked as one of the best in Ohio.

Mayor Bacci's work on behalf of local and regional development, environmental preservation and job retention has positively affected the entire region. A founding member of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS), Mayor Bacci was able to coalesce the commitment and support of suburban mayors and county leaders to unite our region for the common good.

The long-term success of NEORS under-scores Mayor Bacci's strength in leadership. NEORS provides efficient and low cost sanitary and water services to millions of residents throughout Cuyahoga County. Moreover, the focus of NEORS has also extended to the restoration of our local environment by earmarking billions of dollars to fund successful cleanup projects that have succeeded in restoring and preserving our local river and wetland ecosystems.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Mayor Louis J. Bacci—an exceptional man and caring leader whose life profoundly affected the lives of millions. Mayor Bacci's passing marks a deep loss for countless individuals who called him friend—including me. His brilliant legacy of community progress tempered with preservation will be remembered always by the people of Cuyahoga Heights and by people in neighboring communities throughout Cuyahoga County and beyond. Moreover, it was the power of his kindness, grace, tenacity and heart that uplifted our entire community.

I extend my deepest condolences to Mayor Bacci's beloved wife, Lillian; his beloved children, Charlotte, Laura, Juliann, John, Jack, and the loving memory of John Louis and Louis John; his 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; and to his extended family and many friends.

Mayor Bacci's life and good works will serve as an ageless example of leadership, service

to others and heart—and his legacy will forever resound throughout the Village of Cuyahoga Heights, and throughout our entire community.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
JUDGE FERNANDO GAITAN, JR.

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Judge Fernando Gaitan, Jr., an important resident of the 5th Congressional District of Missouri, and current United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri. Judge Gaitan was recently inducted into the Missouri Walk of Fame, during a reception as part of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, an event held to honor the achievements of African-Americans who have made significant contributions to Missouri.

Judge Gaitan graduated from Pittsburg State University in 1970, and earned his law degree from the University of Missouri at Kansas City—where he was member of the Law Review. Judge Gaitan served first as a state trial judge for the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit in Kansas City, Missouri. He then went on to serve as an appellate judge on the Missouri Court of Appeals-Western District. He was elevated to the federal bench in 1991 by then-President George H. W. Bush. By the appointment of then Chief Justice William Rehnquist, he also served in the Federal-State Jurisdiction Committee of the Judicial Conference from 1997–2003.

With a great desire to share this incalculable knowledge and experience with others in the community, Judge Gaitan serves as adjunct professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. In addition, he is a member of many non-for-profit boards as well as local, state and national bar associations.

Throughout his career, Judge Gaitan has been noted for his steadfast judicial prudence. His rulings have been noted for their fairness and adherence to the letter and intent of the law. His scholarly approach to judicial decisions coupled with his fundamental commitment to equality and equity are well regarded across the federal judiciary.

For those reasons and more, it was indeed an honor and privilege to recognize Judge Gaitan at the Missouri Walk of Fame reception, hosted by myself and fellow colleague, Missouri Representative William Lacy Clay of St. Louis.

Mr. Speaker, please join with me in expressing our appreciation to Judge Gaitan and his endless commitment to serving the residents of the State of Missouri. He is a true role model not just to the African-American community in Missouri, but to the entire African American community at large. May his success serve as a stepping stone for many other African-Americans eager to be just as successful in their endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Montgomery County for its outstanding efforts in the digital Government program. The Montgomery County website recently received two awards and an honorable mention at the Best of the Awards Ceremony held by the Center for Digital Government in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The digital government program has been tremendously successful, and it continues to provide County residents with easier and more convenient ways to take care of County business.

Mr. Speaker, Montgomery County's website provides a valuable service to our community and I would like to thank the website team for their service and dedication to the residents of our community.

HONORING LINO MARCHETTI AS  
HE IS NAMED PERSON OF THE  
YEAR BY THE ITALIAN AMER-  
ICAN FOUNDATION OF LUZERNE  
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Mr. Lino Marchetti, of Exeter, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of being named "Person of the Year" by the Italian American Association of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Born in Bologna, Italy, Mr. Marchetti is the son of the late Samuel and Sylvia Parente Marchetti.

Mr. Marchetti served in the United States Army during World War II. He worked for many years at Atlas Chain in West Pittston, Pennsylvania, and is a member of the United Auto Workers, AFL-CIO.

An accomplished musician, Mr. Marchetti serves as president of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 140. He frequently provides musical entertainment for residents of nursing homes and for patients at veterans hospitals.

He is the adjutant of the American Legion, Post 833, and he serves as vice president of the Italian American Association of Luzerne County.

Mr. Marchetti and his wife have been married for 53 years. They are the parents of two daughters and the grandparents of three grandsons.

Throughout his life, Mr. Marchetti has been a good citizen, friend and neighbor whose deeds have touched the lives of many in a very positive manner.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Marchetti on this special occasion that recognizes his service to his fellow man and the community at large.

NATIONAL FORESTS REHABILITA-  
TION AND RECOVERY ACT OF  
2005

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to authorize the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to carry out five collaboratively created pilot projects dealing with post-disturbance rehabilitation.

For those communities that remain at risk from wildland fire or other disturbances, it is important to consider, in advance, scenarios for rehabilitation should a wildland fire, insect infestation, hurricane, or other disturbance event occur. The National Forests Rehabilitation and Recovery Act does just that—this legislation promotes pro-active planning and collaboration to accelerate the approval of rehabilitation projects following uncharacteristic disturbance events.

The National Forests Rehabilitation and Recovery Act will create five pilot projects for post-disturbance rehabilitation. Federal forest land communities can apply to participate in the pilot program by meeting a number of different criteria, with specific consideration given to communities that have a proven track record of working in a collaborative manner to resolve natural resource issues.

This bill includes independent, third-party monitoring of the forest areas following rehabilitation operations to track the short-term and long-term impacts of logging, replanting, stream restoration, road removal, or other rehabilitation activities. The legislation further creates a National Oversight Committee of scientists to provide scientific and socioeconomic monitoring and evaluation of the pilot program. The National Oversight Committee will submit reports to Congress on the short and long-term results of the pilot project. The results of this report will allow Congress to make the most informed decisions on post-disturbance rehabilitation in the future.

Community collaboration has shown great promise in resolving controversial issues before Federal agencies. While I reserved concerns with the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003, Public Law 108-148, one good that came out of the legislation is that it recognized the promise in collaboration by encouraging the development of community wildfire protection plans. These plans have allowed communities across the country to work in a collaborative manner to resolve natural resource issues concerning wildfire protection.

There is no doubt that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. When Congress passed the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003, Congress clearly recognized the priority of preventing wildfires through active thinning of Federal lands in the wildland-urban interface. It is just common sense that we need to invest more on the front end in the name of fire prevention to avert major spending post-fire.

While I believe that there were inadequacies with the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, I do believe that we are being penny-wise and pound-foolish by cheating our budget for forest thinning. To date, forest thinning has not been funded even close to the level authorized. This

needs to improve for the sake of protecting our communities and public lands.

Mr. Speaker, the National Forests Rehabilitation and Recovery Act represents a balanced and collaborative approach to post-disturbance rehabilitation. I am pleased to introduce my legislation today with my colleagues Mr. NICK RAHALL and Mr. RAUL GRIJALVA. I urge my other colleagues to support this bill so that we can promote a collaborative approach to restoring forest ecosystem health and diversity following unusually intense disturbances.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on September 29, 2005 I was unable to vote during rollcall votes Nos. 502 to 508 as I had to attend a funeral in my district.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on H. Res. 470, H. Res. 388, and H.J. Res. 68. I would have voted "aye" on H. Con. Res. 178.

Also, I would voted "nay" on H.R. 3824, the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act of 2005 because in reality this bill is a threat to the recovery of endangered species in our Nation. However, I would have voted "aye" on the Miller substitute to H.R. 3824.

JIMMY CARTER—A WARNING  
AGAINST AN ARCTIC FOLLY

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention and strongly endorse the position taken by former president Jimmy Carter in support of the preservation of America's greatest wildlife preserve. President Carter's position was stated in his opinion editorial article "Arctic Folly", in the Washington Post, September 13, 2005.

President Carter criticizes a policy advanced by the Bush administration and adopted by the Congress in the energy legislation passed earlier this session which favors increased production of domestic oil over the protection and preservation of the environmental treasures contained in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and which do nothing to encourage the preservation of oil.

President Carter states, "Now is a time to speak out for the ecological integrity of this unsurpassed 18-million acres wilderness. If we do not respect those acres, many species will be affected." This "Frozen Desert" as Mr. Carter describes it, is a rich Serengeti-like haven of life; serving as a nursery for Caribou, polar bears, walrus and millions of shore birds and waterfowl. Nevertheless, Mr. Carter warns that "... In a few months Americans could lose this special and amazing place through a backdoor legislative maneuver..."

I strongly support Mr. Carter's commitment to the preservation of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and I am glad to know that he is

asserting leadership to preserve this important legacy for our wildlife and future generations.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 13, 2005]

#### ARCTIC FOLLY

(By Jimmy Carter)

Congress is about to make one of those big decisions that marks an era. Unless wiser heads prevail, it may do it badly—making the wrong decision in the wrong way and about the wrong place. At stake is America's great wildlife sanctuary, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. To dissuade Congress from this environmental tragedy, Americans must rally, and quickly.

Congress had its Pyrrhic energy victory this summer, with a new energy policy that ignores much-needed conservation measures and gives the oil industry large new tax breaks regardless of where it drills and pumps. Surely Congress has done more than enough to increase the profits of the oil industry.

Yet now, in a separate decision, the White House and Big Oil are pressuring Congress to allow drilling rigs to rip into the ecological heart of America's preeminent wildlife sanctuary. We must not confuse this with Prudhoe Bay, which lies west of the Arctic refuge and is already an industrial landscape resembling Houston more than Yellowstone.

With increasing gasoline prices bringing economic hardship and concern to many Americans, we must not be misled by oil lobbyists who are trying to convince us that our energy security is singularly dependent on sacrificing the Arctic refuge. They promote the false premise that development will touch just a few thousand acres when, in fact, it would introduce roads and pipelines spider-webbing across hundreds of thousands of acres on the fragile coastal plain.

We cannot drill our way to energy security or lower gasoline prices as long as our nation sits on just 3 percent of world oil reserves yet accounts for 25 percent of all oil consumption. An obvious answer is to increase the fuel efficiency of motor vehicles, at least to the level we set more than a quarter-century ago.

Instead, the administration recently proposed a tiny increase in gas mileage for SUVs, miniVans and pickups. Not effective until the 2011 models, this would save about one month's current consumption of fuel over the next 20 years—far less than will be saved in just one state by a new California law. The new ruling offers automobile makers an opportunity to avoid the reductions by modifying the size of various models as they persist in manufacturing gas guzzlers. It is not a coincidence that Moody's has just downgraded the debt of General Motors and Ford to junk status, while makers of efficient vehicles prosper.

I have been to the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to study the wilderness wildlife. Far from being the frozen "desert" some suggest, this is a rich, Serengeti-like haven of life: nursery for caribou, polar bears, walrus and millions of shorebirds and waterfowl that migrate annually to the Lower 48. To sit, as Rosalynn and I did, watching a herd of musk oxen circle-up to defend their young and then to find yourself literally in the midst of thousands of caribou streaming by is to touch in a fundamental way God's glorious ark of teeming wildlife.

We Americans use a lot of energy, and millions of us want to do so in a more efficient way that also allows us to cherish our disappearing wilderness heritage. In the Arctic refuge we cannot have it both ways. In the next few months Americans could lose this special and amazing place through a back-door legislative maneuver.

Each fall Congress endeavors to combine budgetary directives covering the nation's \$2.5 trillion dollar annual budget in a single "reconciliation" decision. In a tricky ploy to avoid full debate, drilling advocates have buried their despoil-the-Arctic goal in this mammoth measure. So, conservation-minded Americans must ask our elected representatives to vote down any final budget reconciliation bill that would allow the sacrifice of our Arctic sanctuary.

Now is the time to speak up for the ecological integrity of this unsurpassed 18-million-acre wilderness. Many Americans will be in Washington on Sept. 20 for the Arctic Refuge Action Day rally on the Mall and to contact congressional representatives personally.

If we are not wise enough to protect the Arctic refuge, future generations will condemn us for needlessly sacrificing the wilderness of their world to feed our profligate, short-term and shortsighted energy habit. The pathway to a better, more sustainable energy future does not wind through the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

HONORING ATTORNEY PAUL MAZZONI AS HE IS NAMED "MAN OF THE YEAR" BY THE COLUMBUS DAY ASSOCIATION OF LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

#### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Attorney Paul Mazzoni, of Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania, who has been named "Man of the Year" by the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County.

Mr. Mazzoni has enjoyed a very successful career and has distinguished himself as a dynamic crime fighter during the years he served as special assistant attorney general and as district attorney for Lackawanna County.

The son of Italian immigrants, he was born in Carbondale, Pennsylvania. His father worked in the coal mines and his mother labored in the factories.

A graduate of the University of Scranton, he received his law degree from Georgetown University Law School.

After serving as Census Director for the 10th Congressional District, he was named special assistant attorney general. Later, he worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry and, after that, as a workmen's compensation judge.

Elected to two terms as district attorney, Mr. Mazzoni prosecuted more cases of election law violations than any previous DA in the history of Lackawanna County. He also prosecuted a murder case involving two juvenile victims that attracted the attention of a national magazine.

He also broke up the largest interstate crime ring ever to operate in northeastern Pennsylvania. The case involved organized crime figures from New York and New Jersey and led to solving a murder case and scores of burglaries and robberies throughout the region. The case sparked the book "Marked to Die" by Michael Brown.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania awarded Mr. Mazzoni a certificate of merit, the first

such award ever presented to a county prosecutor by the state.

Having established a law firm with his brother, Robert, who is now a Lackawanna County Common Pleas Judge, Mr. Mazzoni remains engaged in the practice of law at the firm of Mazzoni and Karam.

A former president of the Lackawanna County Bar Association, Mr. Mazzoni is married to the former Elaine Seckary. The couple has four children and 11 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Mazzoni on this happy occasion. The quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania is better today because of the contributions of men like Paul Mazzoni.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN

#### HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the City of Belleville, Michigan, which is celebrating the 100th anniversary of its incorporation.

Located on the southwestern fringe of the Detroit metropolitan area, in VanBuren Township, the City of Belleville was originally founded in 1820. The area was a small industry-trade center in the early 1800s when farming and lumbering were the main occupations.

Today, Belleville and Van Buren Township make up a diverse community of approximately 40,000 residents and is home to Wayne County's largest inland lake. The area is enhanced by its homes, schools, churches, shopping centers, and industrial parks.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the people of Belleville as they celebrate their historic past. It is my hope this fine community will enjoy a long and prosperous future.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF JON AND KAREN SALERNO

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Jon and Karen Salerno, united in marriage and united in their unwavering dedication to family, faith and community, as they are recognized by civic leaders, friends and family for their significant contributions to our entire community, including the Italian American community. In honor of their volunteerism, the Salerno's have been chosen to serve as Grand Marshals of the 2005 Cleveland Columbus Day Parade.

Jon and Karen continue to dedicate their personal time and talents to the promotion and preservation of Greater Cleveland's rich Italian heritage by numerous community events and programs, including the annual Cleveland Columbus Day Parade. Karen has focused her professional vocation in working to improve the lives of families and individuals who face life-long challenges of living with physical,

mental and emotional disabilities. Karen has worked with the Summit County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities for more than 25 years and is currently the Senior Director of Medicaid Services. Jon is also an active member with the Summit County Board of Mental Retardation. In the 1970s, Jon led the effort to implement new legislation that gave mentally challenged citizens the right to vote.

Jon's interest in public service began in 1971, when he was elected to serve as Council Member with the Village of Moreland Hills. Since that time, local and national political candidates have sought after Jon's political wisdom and insight. Both Karen and Jon continue to volunteer their time as active members and leaders of many local civic organizations, including many Italian American organizations.

As president of Media, Italia, Inc., Jon has produced and hosted the "Memories from Italy" radio program for more than 25 years. Fifteen years ago, Jon led the effort to organize the first WJCU radio-thon, an event that has raised thousands of dollars for the college radio station every year. Jon's outreach efforts also extend directly to our most vulnerable citizens. He is also the Board Chairman for Alternatives Agency, a community-based correctional facility in Cleveland that has been recognized for its positive impact on individuals making the transition from incarceration to freedom.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Jon and Karen Salerno, for their exceptional commitment, leadership and service focused on uplifting the citizens and culture within our community. Their individual and united efforts within their profession, and their volunteer work on behalf of the Italian American community and our entire community, continues to enhance our society and gives us all hope for a brighter tomorrow. I wish Jon and Karen Salerno, and their grown children, Anthony, Jessica and Anthony's wife, Gina, an abundance of health, happiness and peace today and always.

#### RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MS. GAYLE HOLLIDAY

##### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Dr. Gayle Holliday, a constituent of the 5th District of Missouri which I am honored to represent. For over thirty years Gayle has dedicated her life to the Greater Kansas City, MO community, promoting and improving socio-economic conditions, political empowerment and civil rights of people of color.

I recently had the opportunity to pay tribute to Gayle for her extraordinary commitment to community service. During the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 35th Annual Legislative Conference, I had the privilege of nominating Gayle for the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses' Celebration of Leadership Unsung Hero Award. While this award carries no monetary prize, it is no less a testament to her devotion to bettering our area.

Helping her both personally and professionally is her tremendous educational back-

ground. Gayle holds a BA in Political Sciences, a Masters in Public Administration and a Ph.D. in Management and Applied Technology. Professionally, she is the President and owner of G & H Consulting, LLC, which has been in business for over 10 years, helping clients in the public, private and non-profit sector with strategic planning and business plan development. Additionally, under President Clinton, Gayle was selected as one of a small group of individuals to represent the transportation industry on the President's transition team.

Civically, Gayle serves on twelve boards in the Greater Kansas City area, with diverse interests such as issues of healthcare, education and economic development. Gayle has been happily and eagerly ready to help our community amassing more than 70 hours of community service each month. She is also a member of the church I pastor, St. James Methodist Church, and finds time to serve as chair of the Pastor Parish Staff Relations Committee.

Dr. Holliday's work on behalf of others reaches from behind the scenes to the frontlines. In all of her activities, she demonstrates her dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. Her high energy pace translates directly to the results she is able to obtain for the benefit of all in our area. Regardless of whether she is in the trenches or the boardroom, her poise and thoughtfulness is ever present.

Throughout her life, Gayle Holliday has exercised a tireless belief in the principle of putting "other" before "self." But what separates Gayle from those who simply profess to hold a belief but do nothing to promote it, is that she has put her principles to practice, and the effects of her efforts can be felt throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area. That is why it was indeed an honor for me to be able to recognize her during the CBCF's Annual Legislative Conference. It is also why I am doubly honored to be able to recognize her here along with my colleagues, in the U.S. House of Representatives. While it is but a small acknowledgement for all of the work she has done, it is a heart-felt gesture, taking strength from the myriad lives she has touched in our hometown.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to Dr. Gayle Holliday and her commitment to helping others. She is a living testament to the unspoken principle that defines unsung heroes: to be a great leader you must be a great servant.

#### TRIBUTE TO 2005 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS WINNER, DR. JOHN HALL

##### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to commend Dr. John Hall, winner of the 2005 Nobel Prize in Physics. Dr. Hall is a scientist emeritus in the Quantum Physics division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and a Fellow at the Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics.

Dr. Hall has been recognized for his contributions to the development of a laser based

precision spectroscopy and optical frequency comb technique. His innovative techniques have made it possible to carry out studies in the stability of the constants of nature over time and to develop extremely accurate clocks and improved GPS technology.

This is the third time a NIST researcher has been awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics, and I am proud to be a strong supporter of that important agency. I applaud Dr. Hall for his outstanding achievements in physics and I wish him continued success in the years ahead.

#### HONORING SENATOR RAPHAEL J. MUSTO AS HE RECEIVES THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM THE ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

##### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to a former colleague and current Pennsylvania State Senator Raphael J. Musto on the occasion of receiving the "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Italian American Association of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Senator Musto has had a distinguished career in public service dating back to 1971 when he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in a special election to fill the unexpired term of office of his father, the late State Representative James Musto. Senator Musto was subsequently re-elected to four consecutive terms.

In 1980, then-State Representative Musto won a special election to become the Congressman representing the 11th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the United States House of Representatives.

In November, 1982, he was elected to the Senate of Pennsylvania to serve the 14th District. Senator Musto was subsequently re-elected in 1986, 1990, 1994, 1998 and 2002. He served as Senate Democratic Caucus Secretary from 1997 to 2004, a leadership position. Senator Musto also serves as Democratic chairman of the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee and chairman of the Energy and Environment Committee of the Council of State Governments' Eastern Regional Conference, which encompasses 11 States, five Canadian provinces, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Senator Musto is a charter member of the Pittston Township Lions Club, a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Italian American Association of Luzerne County, the Sons of Italy, the Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce, King's College Alumni Association and he is a life member of the Pittston Township Volunteer Fire Company.

Senator Musto was honored by both King's College and Wilkes University when the two Wilkes-Barre institutions presented him with honorary doctorates of humanities and humane letters, respectively.

In 2000, he was named Conservation Legislator of the year and he received awards for excellence and distinguished service from the



National Association of Water Companies, the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association, the Ford Foundation and Harvard University.

Senator Musto is married to the former Frances Panzetta and they are the parents of four children and seven grandchildren.

On a personal note, it has been a pleasure to work with Ray Musto on many issues of importance to our mutual constituents. He has epitomized the true American success story by encompassing strong family values, dedication to his community, and commitment to the democratic institutions of his community, his State, and indeed, the Nation. He has been a friend for more than half my lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Senator Musto on this special occasion that recognizes the contributions he has made throughout his distinguished career in public service. Clearly, Senator Musto has made a positive difference in the quality of life for the citizens of northeastern Pennsylvania and we thank him for that.

#### THE LOW-INCOME GASOLINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Low-Income Gasoline Assistance Program Act of 2005. I want to thank the original House cosponsors that have joined in this effort.

Recent high gasoline prices are taking a serious toll on American's pocketbooks. The monthly budgets of hard-working, low-income families are currently dominated by the unexpected price increases at the pumps. We all must do our part to conserve fuel and reduce our national demand for petroleum and I applaud those individuals who have begun or continue to walk, bike or take public transportation on a daily basis. Unfortunately, not all people have these options. Due to lack of available public transportation, people living in rural areas are often forced to commute to everyday activities by automobile. The Low-Income Gasoline Assistance Program Act or LIGAP is designed to assist American families most affected by high fuel prices.

LIGAP is modeled after the successful LIHEAP program that helps low-income citizens pay for seasonal heating and cooling. In short, LIGAP calls for qualifying recipients to receive \$25–\$75 per month for 3 months to pay for gasoline. Additionally, another 3 months' benefit will be made available if prices do not soften. LIGAP will allow States and tribal organizations to make grants to low- and fixed-income individuals and families who have no option but to drive at least 30 miles a day, or 150 miles per week for work, school, or medical care to defray the cost of purchasing gasoline. States are also encouraged to use their welfare reform block grant to provide transportation stipends to parents who meet the same distance standards.

This measure will enable States to operate the program through their Community Action agencies or welfare departments. Additionally,

tribal organizations may directly request assistance. Thus, States will have the flexibility to set income-eligibility standards similar to the current eligibility for LIHEAP. The prices at which the program triggers on and subsequently releases will then be set for each jurisdiction through consultation between the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Energy.

LIGAP is not meant to be a substitute for the long-term energy solutions we all seek for our Nation. Each of us understands the necessity of a comprehensive and balanced approach to energy development, but we must realize that in every State there are hard-working people and elderly individuals whose monthly budgets are being overwhelmed by the cost of gasoline. While we must approach this country's energy demand with the willingness to make the tough, long-range choices demanded of us, it is equally important that we heed the immediate damage being caused by the current high prices. We must show a willingness to provide some comfort for those Americans who are most at risk.

Mr. Speaker, we all recognize that people are suffering and that something must be done to help with the high cost of gasoline. I urge my colleagues to join us in this forward thinking and comprehensive proposal.

#### MS. SOLIS'S SPECIAL ORDER ON LATINOS AND HIV/AIDS

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 6, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to join the Gentlewoman from California, my colleague Ms. Solis, to talk about the Ryan White CARE Act and the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS upon minority communities.

I want to thank my colleague for her leadership in organizing this event as we approach the third anniversary of National Latino AIDS Awareness Day on October 15th. As the leader of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus's Health taskforce, I know she is a forceful advocate for ending the racial and ethnic health disparities that continue to plague both our communities.

Mr. Speaker, 15 years ago, a young and courageous boy by the name of Ryan White inspired members of this body and people all over the country to come together out of compassion to destigmatize HIV/AIDS, and to provide medical care and support services to people living with this dreaded disease.

The passage of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act in 1990 provided hope for thousands of Americans afflicted with HIV/AIDS, and signaled the beginning of a sustained Federal response that has now grown to over \$2 billion a year.

The Ryan White CARE Act has been reauthorized twice so far, first in 1996, and then in 2000. Each time we have remembered Ryan for his courage and his compassion and we have remembered countless others who have needlessly become infected by this devastating disease and who still needed our help.

Now it is time to do it all over again.

Since the beginning of this pandemic, over 500,000 individuals have died in the United States, many of whom will be forever memorialized through the ongoing AIDS Memorial Quilt project.

The AIDS quilt stands as testament to the strength and vitality of those who were claimed by this dreaded disease, but it also charts the evolution of HIV/AIDS here in the U.S. as well.

The face of AIDS has changed dramatically since the early days of the epidemic, and now people of color are overwhelmingly represented.

Today, there are over 1 million people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States, 42 percent of which are African Americans, 20 percent of which are Hispanic.

Every year another 40,000 individuals get infected with HIV, over 50 percent of whom are African Americans, and 15 percent of which are Hispanic.

The fastest growing categories of new infections nationally are among African American women and the Hispanic community.

My district in Alameda County reflects the national averages, with African Americans representing over 50 percent of all new AIDS cases, and Hispanics 21 percent, and over the last 8 years the numbers for Hispanics have shot up.

Clearly we need to work harder to get the word out about HIV/AIDS, and we need to make sure that our communities have access to the resources they need.

That's why I'm a proud original co-sponsor of Ms. SOLIS's resolution supporting National Latino AIDS Awareness Day. We need to recognize the fact that AIDS affects everybody, and the more than 76,000 Latinos currently living with AIDS are testament to that.

At the same time we must also recognize the work of national and community based organizations, like the Latino Commission on AIDS, that are doing the work. In my district, organizations like La Clinica de La Raza, AIDS Project East Bay, SalvaSIDA, CALPEP, and SMAAC, deserve to be recognized for their efforts to reach out to Hispanic and African American communities alike.

It is their work that drives us here in Congress to demand more funding for communities of color dealing with HIV/AIDS. And that's why we established the Minority AIDS Initiative in 1998 with President Clinton.

As a key complement to the Ryan White CARE Act, the Minority AIDS Initiative plays a critical role in supporting outreach and capacity building in minority communities.

As we work to re-authorize the CARE Act, we must strengthen the Minority AIDS Initiative and ensure that the needs of minorities are being met.

That means we need a strong and robust primary prevention approach that differentiates messages between race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and identity, and age.

We also need to make sure to build in housing and supportive services to provide continuity of care for all individuals infected with HIV—especially in minority communities.

That means providing convenient access to case management, dental care, mental health therapy, psychosocial support, and drug and alcohol treatment while we try and address the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.

As we move to re-authorize the CARE Act, we must also ensure full funding for the AIDS

Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS program (HOPWA), and the Minority AIDS Initiative.

Each of these programs is critical to addressing the needs of people living with AIDS and to addressing the needs of those who are most vulnerable, and they deserve our support.

I hope that with this effort today we can begin to take some concrete steps to move forward with the re-authorization of the Ryan White CARE Act.

I want to thank my colleague again for organizing this discussion.

ASA PHILIP RANDOLPH

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present resolution H. Res. 179 giving homage to one of America's forgotten heroes, Asa Philip Randolph. A champion for workers' rights and civil rights for African Americans, he has achieved many gains and survived many losses in his battles to achieve racial, social and economic equality for all Americans.

Mr. Randolph was born in the post-Reconstruction South on April 15, 1889 in Crescent City, Florida. At the age of twenty-two, he moved to Harlem, New York to attend City College where he studied politics and economics, and soon joined the socialist party. During the onset of WWI, Mr. Randolph and his friend Chandler Owen established a controversial magazine called "The Messenger," which initiated his open stance against the segregation of the military and other anti-war sentiments. He believed that the statement "making the world safe for democracy" was a fallacy and a tremendous offense to the intelligence of Black Americans because at that time Blacks were being lynched and denied the right to vote, in the South especially, and were victims of segregation and discrimination all over the Nation. WWI became the catalyst for his commitment to fight for the rights of all.

Although Mr. Randolph has done a lot for the Civil Rights Movement, including initiating the famous March on Washington which led to the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, he has done much more with concern for workers' rights and the labor movement. Employment, better wages and equal access are the only ways in which he believed the fight against discrimination and racism could be won. Just before WWII, Mr. Randolph traveled throughout the Nation to unite African Americans against discrimination, which shut them out of well-paying jobs in the factories. As a result of his efforts, then President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed an order ending discrimination in defense plant jobs. Once more in 1948, the power of persuasion and the justice of his complaints convinced President Truman to sign an order calling for the end to discrimination not only in the armed forces, but also in federal and civil service jobs.

His greatest accomplishment, however, has been attributed to his leadership of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Initially, Randolph was approached by a group of Black Pullman porters who wanted the right to bar-

gain for better wages and improvements in working conditions. They wanted to unionize. This was considered the first serious effort to unionize the Pullman Company. In retaliation, the company fired union members, put fear in the men by threatening them with tougher assignments, assignment cuts, or termination. However, to no avail. A. Philip Randolph and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters continued to fight for their right to unionize. In 1935, 12 years after they started their fight against the Pullman Company, the American Federation of Labor reversed its previous position and voted to make them an international charter. Two years later, the Pullman Company agreed to sit down with the Brotherhood and they signed a contract. He then became heavily involved within the ranks of the AFL-CIO, trying to build a mass movement by working with and through trade unions.

The words and deeds of A. Philip Randolph show us the unyielding strength of his lifelong struggle for full human rights for African Americans and all the disinherited of the Nation. He believed that the condition of blacks in America were a symptom of a larger social illness, an illness which is caused by an unfair distribution of power, wealth, and resources. Mr. Randolph left a legacy of activism and triumph for all Americans to cherish. He fought long and hard to secure the rights of working class Americans regardless of race, color or creed. His life and legacy was based on the principle that "Salvation for a race, nation or class must come from within. Freedom is never granted; it is won. Justice is never given; it is exacted and the struggle must be continuous for freedom is never a final fact, but a continuing evolving process to higher and higher social, economic, political and religious relationships."

A. Philip Randolph's position, whether an attitude toward the rights of workers to organize and collectively bargain for their terms and conditions of employment; or his anti-war stand, or a political position with an aim of economic change, has consistently reflected his socialist ideals. He has always believed in a movement based on the workers as the main force, and has always been committed to the idea that a democratic redistribution of wealth is the first step toward greater freedom for all people, Black as well as White. This is why I believe that Congress should support resolution H. Res. 179 expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that A. Philip Randolph should be recognized for his lifelong leadership and work to end discrimination and secure equal employment and labor opportunities for all Americans.

RECOGNIZING ATTORNEY JOHN PENTZ AS HE IS HONORED BY THE MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues to pay tribute to Attorney John J. Pentz, Jr., on the occasion of being honored by the Monroe County, Pennsylvania, Bar Association for 48 years of distinguished service.

Born in Dubois, Pennsylvania, the son of the late Judge and Mrs. John J. Pentz, Mr.

Pentz graduated from Mercersburg Academy and served in the United States Navy for 2 years.

He attended and graduated from Princeton University and the University of Michigan Law School.

After practicing law in New Haven, Connecticut, for 3 years, he moved to Monroe County where he later established his own law office in Stroudsburg where he specialized in real estate law, administration, corporate and commercial law and estate planning.

A member of Grace Lutheran Church where he was a former trustee and Sunday school teacher, he was the Pocono District Representative and District Chairman for Boy Scouts of America. He is also a member of the Kiwanis Club of the Stroudsburgs, the Monroe County Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

Married to the former Connie Beers, of New Haven, Connecticut, the couple has three sons.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Pentz on this memorable occasion during which his peers are honoring him for his service to family and community for nearly a half century. The quality of life in northeastern Pennsylvania is enhanced by the sacrifices and contributions of people like John Pentz.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed roll call Vote No. 508 on September 29, 2005. It was a suspension vote on H. Con. Res. 178, of which I am a cosponsor. Due to circumstances, I could not make it to the floor for this vote.

I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted rollcall vote No. 508, recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, treatment, and an eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, supporting the goals and ideals of National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week, "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to travel for official government business, I missed votes on the House floor from Tuesday, September 27 to Thursday, September 29, 2005.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote Wednesday, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 501, final passage of the Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act.

I also ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote Thursday, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 505, the Miller amendment to improve H.R. 3824 through bipartisan compromise, and "nay" on rollcall



vote No. 506, final passage of the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act.

**HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNTING KIWANIS CLUB DAY CARE CENTER**

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor a historic anniversary as the Kiwanis Day Care Center in Huntington celebrates its 75th anniversary. This is without a doubt a one of a kind day care center with a unique history. The center is the oldest day care facility in West Virginia and is also the oldest continuous Kiwanis service project in the world. The Huntington chapter of the Kiwanis embodies their international motto "We Build" with the chapter's dedication to building brotherhood, camaraderie and community as displayed through building and maintaining a 75-year-old service project. The center is operated and sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Huntington, and President Bob Mauk has been doing a fantastic job for the organization. The center started from a donated residence in 1930 and has since grown to a modern building with seven classrooms, a kitchen, offices and a large, well equipped playground.

Recently a formal ceremony was held where several Kiwanian and government officials were on hand to offer congratulatory remarks and give praise to the center's 23 workers and volunteers. The 72 children served daily by the Kiwanis Day Care Center were on hand to sing Happy Birthday to the center during the ceremony. I take great pride in knowing that a wonderful organization such as the Kiwanis has been working so hard for nearly a century in Huntington to maintain a safe, fun and educational environment for the youth of the Mountain State.

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE THIRD ANNUAL NATIONAL LATINO AIDS AWARENESS DAY**

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to rise and join my colleague, Congresswoman HILDA SOLIS, the chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Health Braintrust, in recognizing the third annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, which will take place on Saturday, October 15, 2005.

In my State of New Jersey, over 32,000 people are living with HIV or AIDS, and almost 7,000 of them are Latinos. Unfortunately, Latinos are suffering disproportionately from this disease. Latinos in New Jersey, like Latinos in the rest of the Nation, make up about 13 percent of the population, but 20 percent of the AIDS cases. Many are uninsured and unable to access adequate care due to lack of transportation, language and cultural barriers, or the fear of being stigmatized, among other reasons. Even more disturbing is the fact that 4 out of every 5 females living with HIV/AIDS are minorities.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is about educating our communities and increasing awareness. Too many Latinas in my State are not getting diagnosed until it is too late. With increased awareness and action, we can save lives.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a chance to salute the AIDS survivors, and make sure they have the services they need. I urge my colleagues to reauthorize a stronger and fully funded Ryan White CARE Act, which provides critical support for those affected by HIV/AIDS, and is often what keeps those with HIV/AIDS from falling through the cracks. Through the help of the CARE Act, the incidence of mothers transmitting HIV to their babies has decreased ten-fold. Almost half of all CARE Act beneficiaries are minorities. Without a stronger commitment and increased funding, Latinos will be left behind and lives will be lost.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day also gives us a chance to thank those dedicated to ending HIV/AIDS: the victims, the volunteers, the professionals, and the advocates. It is their tireless efforts and dedication that force our country to be honest with itself. The progress we have made so far would not have been possible without them, or the commitment of national and community organizations, that provide culturally sensitive information and services that are essential to helping Latinos who suffer from the disease.

But the battle against AIDS has not yet been won. Approximately 40,000 new cases of HIV are reported each year. Alarming, Congress has slashed critical funding for programs that provide a comprehensive response to the spread of the disease, and for years, our communities have been asked to do more with less. This must stop.

A renewed investment in the fight against HIV and AIDS is critical to the future of this country. Hispanic men, women, children, and families deserve better. On this National Latino AIDS Awareness Day, let us renew our commitment to the Latino community and to ending HIV/AIDS. Let us reauthorize and fully fund the CARE Act, and let us give our communities the resources they need to fight this disease.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, September 29, 2005, I was unable to vote on passage of H.J. Res. 68, making continuing appropriations for Fiscal year 2006 (rollcall No. 507); and the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 178, recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, treatment and an eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (rollcall No. 508). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both measures.

**FREEDOM FOR RAÚL ARENCIBIA FAJARDO**

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Raúl Arencibia Fajardo, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Arencibia Fajardo is a member of the Lawton Foundation for Human Rights, the Human Rights Friends Club, and a delegate of the 24th of February Movement. He is a peaceful pro-democracy activist who has worked for basic human rights for the people of Cuba. As an opponent of the tyrannical regime in Havana, he has faced constant harassment and repression.

According to Amnesty International, he was arrested on December 6, 2002, along with fellow opposition activists Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet and Mr. Virgilio Marante Guelmes. He was summarily incarcerated in the grotesque totalitarian gulag for 3 months without trial. During his unjust imprisonment, and after being released, Mr. Arencibia Fajardo never wavered in his commitment to bring freedom, democracy and human rights to the Cuban people.

Unfortunately, according to Amnesty International, on May 18, 2004, Mr. Arencibia Fajardo was, in a sham trial, sentenced to 3 years in the totalitarian gulag for the "crimes" of "disrespect" and "resistance."

According to CubaNetcom, Mr. Arencibia Fajardo has a chronic cough, high fever, throat infection, and has been confined in a cell without food and water. He is suffering in abhorrent conditions because he refuses to accept the reality inflicted on the Cuban people by the tyrant. Let us be very clear, the repression and tyranny practiced by the regime in Havana are incompatible with the democratic values of the western hemisphere.

Mr. Arencibia Fajardo is one of the many heroes of the peaceful Cuban democratic movement who are locked in the dungeons of the dictatorship for their beliefs. They are symbols of freedom and democracy who will always be remembered when freedom reigns again in Cuba.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Arencibia Fajardo is suffering in a grotesque gulag because he believes in freedom, democracy and human rights. My Colleagues, it is absolutely unacceptable that peaceful pro-democracy activists are languishing in the depraved prisons of tyrants. We must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Raúl Arencibia Fajardo and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

**CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF THE NEW SAN MATEO HIGH SCHOOL**

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the opening of the new San Mateo High School and the dedication of the Thomas C. Mohr Clock Tower, in my Congressional

district. San Mateo High School has been on the same property since 1927, but is being rebuilt so that once again the splendor of the school and the extraordinary students who attend will be paired with the elegant architecture they so richly deserve.

Mr. Speaker, the people of San Mateo County agreed in the year 2000 that the six high schools in the San Mateo Union High School District were in need of repairs. Unfortunately shortly after the renovation of San Mateo High School was initiated it became clear that the existing structure was seismically unsafe. As a result of this discovery, the students and staff suddenly found themselves facing a complete reconstruction of their school and were moved into modular classrooms, which have been used for the past four years.

The principal architect of the reconstruction bonds for the San Mateo Union High School District and San Mateo High School is the former superintendent Thomas C. Mohr. Now hopefully enjoying a peaceful retirement, Superintendent Mohr spent a distinguished 43-year career in public education, working as a teacher, counselor, principal, district level administrator and Superintendent. His strong leadership and devotion to the school district led to the clock tower being named after him.

Like any construction project, there were certainly bumps in the road during the past four years but I was delighted to witness how the whole community has come together around the school not only through voting for a bond to revitalize the school but through groups such as the San Mateo High School Foundation, Parent Teacher Organization, Booster Groups and Alumni, which raised funds for an open air amphitheatre and new all-weather track, among other improved amenities.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the community for undertaking the renovation and necessary seismic updates. The extraordinarily beautiful building incorporates many parts of the historic structure, down to murals and the "haphazardly placed bricks," as the architect Paul Bunton appropriately describes them. The new modern structure has expanded the size of the school by 46,000 square feet, yet kept the historic facade. After a somewhat arduous four year project the 1425 students along with the faculty, staff and community as a whole should be commended for their patience in seeing this important project through. On October 15, 2005, the school will officially be dedicated and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the opening of new San Mateo High School and the Dedication of the Thomas C. Mohr Clock Tower.

#### CELEBRATING ROSH HASHANA

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Jewish New Year or Rosh Hashana. This is the 5766th year on the Jewish calendar. Rosh Hashana is the Hebrew phrase which literally translates to "the head of the year."

As the Jewish people of our great country and around the world celebrate this new year,

let us join them in their prayers for peace, justice and equality. Let us not forget those of us, of all faiths, who are struggling, especially in the wake of the devastating Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf.

A new year is a symbol of hope and this year is no different. Today, we need to have hope more than ever. Hope for less wars and more diplomacy, hope for breaking racial barriers and coming together, and hope for restraint and modesty in the face of great challenges.

Jewish people throughout the world join their loved ones and friends to take part in a traditional dinner where they enjoy sweet foods such as apples and honey. These foods symbolize the notion of starting a new and sweet year.

Even many of the 10,000 Jewish Katrina evacuees got to celebrate this new year. In Houston, Rabbi Robert Loewy of Congregation Gates of Prayer led a service for 120 of these evacuees. Many of them had not seen each other since the hurricane hit their communities over a month ago. Such coming together after a tremendously painful experience only serves to show the resilience of America's communities and the necessity of maintaining them.

I know my colleagues from both sides of the aisle will join me in wishing a happy new year to all Jews in my district, in our country and around the world—both in the Diaspora and in Israel. May God continue to bless all of us as we face some of the most difficult tests we have ever been faced as a nation.

Shana Tova Umetuka—Have a good and sweet year!

#### RECOGNIZING JUDGE PETER J. O'BRIEN AS HE IS HONORED UPON HIS RETIREMENT BY THE MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

#### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to the Honorable Peter J. O'Brien, from the Court of Common Pleas, 43rd Judicial District, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, on the occasion of his retirement. He is being honored by his peers at a special celebration on Sunday, Oct. 16.

A native of Pennsylvania, Judge O'Brien has been recognized by his peers as a man who has accomplished much in his career. Mark S. Love, president of the Monroe County Bar Association, has stated that the association is honored to be able to recognize Judge O'Brien for his work and his service to the community.

A graduate of Villanova University, Judge O'Brien was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in December, 1962. He attended Judge Advocate General's School in 1963 and received his Military Justice Certification. He also attended several courses at the National Judicial College.

Judge O'Brien served as a captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps (U.S. Army) from 1963 to 1966. He was Chief of Military Justice, Sixth Army Headquarters in San Fran-

cisco, California. He received the Sixth Army Commanding General's Commendation, the Army Commendation Medal and the First Oak Leaf Cluster.

Judge O'Brien practiced law at the O'Brien and Miller law firm in Mount Pocono for 18 years. His former partner, the Honorable Linda Wallace Miller, is also a Common Pleas Judge in Monroe County.

As a practicing attorney, he conducted extensive litigation throughout 12 northeastern counties in Pennsylvania for many years. He also had an extensive appellate practice in the Supreme, Superior and Commonwealth Courts.

He was a member and chairman of a hearing committee for the Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court from 1972 to 1980.

In 1986, Judge O'Brien was elected to the Monroe County Court of Common Pleas. He was re-elected in 1996 and has presided over hundreds of civil and criminal jury trials.

A member of the American Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association and Monroe County Bar Association, he remains active in numerous education and youth related organizations in the community.

Married for 43 years to his wife, Karin, the couple has seven children.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in acknowledging a remarkable career of public service. Judge O'Brien's example of devotion to justice, faithfulness to family and community service among our youth provides a wonderful role model for others to emulate. Judge O'Brien can take justifiable pride in a job well done.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AMEND THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN ATTORNEY FEES SHALL BE FULLY ALLOWABLE IN COMPUTING BOTH TAXABLE INCOME AND ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAXABLE INCOME

#### HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, after 19 years of legal challenges, the courts found the State of California responsible in an inverse condemnation for the failure of the Linda levee on the Yuba River, and ordered it to pay damages to victims of the 1986 Yuba County flood. Now, constituents in my northern California congressional district are receiving their long awaited just compensation. Unfortunately, an unforeseen consequence has arisen. Depending on the amount of an individual's award, he or she may be subject to the alternative minimum tax (AMT), due in part to the portion of the individual's judgment award paid to attorneys in the form of fees.

Attorneys in the suit received their cut of the judgment right off the top, payment for services rendered, as ordered by the court's decision. The attorneys will owe regular tax on this payment. Unfortunately, the actual award recipients may also incur tax liability for this amount, effectively resulting in double taxation—once when the attorneys pay taxes and once if recipients incur AMT liability. Even

though this is money my constituents never physically possessed, as currently written in law no AMT relief can be granted.

Although there is no practical way to retrospectively address the tax treatment of the 1986 Yuba County flood victims, I believe their situation stands on its own as an example of the damaging impacts of the AMT on the American taxpayer. And the scope of the problem is only getting worse. The AMT is not indexed for inflation, meaning that what was conceived in 1969 as a way to compel the wealthy to pay at least a "minimum" level of taxes has increasingly become a burden to middle-class citizens. If the current AMT exemptions are allowed to expire, the number of taxpayers subject to the AMT will increase from 3 million in 2004 to 21 million in 2006. Also staggering is the cost of proposed solutions. In fact, the Treasury Department has estimated that by 2013, it would be less expensive to repeal the regular income tax than it would to repeal the AMT.

Though I have long supported the outright repeal of the AMT, I believe it is equally important to highlight the nature in which attorney fees can result in AMT liability, as they may for many of my constituents. For this reason, today I am introducing two bills that would exempt attorney fees from the calculation of AMT tax liability. The first would apply to AMT liability resulting from attorney fees in certain floods that constitute natural disasters. The second would apply to AMT liability resulting from attorney fees in general.

There is no easy fix to the problems encountered by a growing number of Americans due to the alternative minimum tax. It is my hope that in the near future Congress will constructively respond to this problem, whether through overall repeal of this onerous tax, or through consideration of intermediate measures such as these.

#### INTRODUCTION OF COMMUNITY DISASTER LOAN EQUITY ACT OF 2005

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, Representatives JEFFERSON, MELANCON, GRIJALVA, CROWLEY, SERRANO, MEEKS and I are introducing the Community Disaster Loan Equity Act.

We have all seen the headlines this week that the Mayor of New Orleans has been forced to lay off 3,000 municipal employees because the city of New Orleans can not pay them as a direct result of reduced tax revenues following Hurricane Katrina. There are a number of other towns, counties and parishes up and down the Gulf Coast in similar situations.

Realizing that communities hard-hit by a major disaster frequently suffer a dramatic decrease in tax revenues accompanied by a dramatic increase in expenses, the Robert T. Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act allows FEMA to make loans to states and local communities to assist with lost tax revenues. This act prevents a community from having to drastically cut essential services and/or increase taxes as they recover from a disaster. These loans stabilize local govern-

ments during their greatest time of need. Frequently, these loans have been forgiven and were treated as grants. Since this program was created in 1976, 60 loans have been distributed.

In 2000, arguing that they were too expensive, Congress placed a \$5 million cap on these loans with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Needless to say, a cap of \$5 million unfairly penalizes larger communities or communities absolutely devastated by a disaster. That is why we are introducing the Community Disaster Loan Equity Act. This bill would remove the \$5 million cap imposed by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. Additionally, it would automatically cancel repayment of these loans and remove the limit of only providing up to 25 percent of total operating expenses if a disaster is declared an Incident of National Significance under the National Response Plan. This legislation is similar to legislation I introduced since the 107th Congress following the major loss of tax revenues suffered by New York City and State following 9/11.

#### THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Chairman, today I rise in opposition to H.R. 3824, the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act. Under the constitution, we are charged with securing this country's blessings not only for ourselves, but for our posterity. This bill turns its back on our posterity.

The Endangered Species Act has been a model for the protection and preservation of endangered species since 1973. When this legislation was first passed, many species in this country were on the brink of extinction, and many more were in severe decline. ESA is essential to safeguard our natural resources and ensure the biodiversity that is critical to a healthy environment for all species, including human beings. ESA is a great American success story that should only be altered with the greatest of care.

In the 30 years since the passage of the Endangered Species Act, we have seen an amazing turnaround in both the population numbers of species that were in decline, as well as in the significant environmental improvements that have fostered their recovery.

I acknowledge the concerns of landowners and farmers about the current law, and I agree that the current law needs to be reformed. This is why I support the Miller-Boehlert substitute bill. The substitute helps small landowners by dedicating funding for technical assistance for private property owners, and it provides conservation grants for landowners who help conserve endangered species on their property. Finally, it provides assurances that private citizens will get timely answers

from the Fish & Wildlife Service regarding the status of endangered species requirements on their land. The Miller-Boehlert Substitute provides positive changes to the current ESA without reversing the progress that has been made over the past 30 years. The bipartisan substitute is not perfect legislation, but it is far superior to H.R. 3824.

H.R. 3824 was introduced just last week and was marked up without any public hearings, yet this legislation would most certainly rank as the most sweeping and significant change of environmental law in the past 3 decades.

I have grave concerns about provisions in the bill that would give political appointees the power to remove species from the endangered list, and other drastic changes such as those which would take away critical habitat areas that have been set aside for endangered species. Habitat degradation is the leading cause of species decline, and this bill proposes to eliminate critical habitat designations. I do not understand how eliminating protected areas can result in greater protection of endangered species.

The Endangered Species Act may need an update, but we must not reverse course on significant progress and results for endangered species. We have a solemn obligation to maintain responsible stewardship of America's bounty, and this legislation would abandon that responsibility. I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 3824, and to vote in favor of the balanced, bipartisan substitute legislation for ESA reform.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SAM VOLPENTEST

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and accomplishments of Sam Volpentest, who recently died after a lifetime of service to the citizens of Washington state.

Although born in Seattle in 1904, Sam was best known for his work on behalf of the Tri-Cities in the Eastern part of our state. From the time he moved there in 1948, Sam was a respected member of the regional community, operating a variety of businesses and co-founding the Tri-Cities Nuclear Industrial Council, now TRIDEC, to foster development in the Richland, Kennewick and Pasco communities. He served as president of the Richland Chamber of Commerce and the Richland Kiwanis, and said his greatest achievement in 40 years as a registered lobbyist was having the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, an Energy Department science lab, built in the Tri-Cities.

Sam served as a mentor to many Members of our state's Congressional delegation, and I will always remember the energy and commitment he demonstrated when I worked with him as a Member of the Armed Services Committee. When I first worked with Sam, I remember a man in his mid-90s who worked harder on his issues than anyone else. His enthusiasm and knowledge of the issues affecting the Tri-Cities provided this region with a

respected voice advocating its interests in Congress.

Our state's delegation will miss the insight and perspectives of this community leader. The Tri-Cities—and indeed all of Washington state—will always remember the commitment and dedication of Sam Volpentest.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. BOB INGLIS

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall nos. 512, 513, and 514, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### THE THURGOOD MARSHALL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

##### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to please join me in cosponsoring H.R. 1433, the Thurgood Marshall Commemorative Coin Act to commemorate the life and legacy of the Honorable Thurgood Marshall, one of America's distinguished Civil Rights leaders and the first black Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

Like Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X and many more, Thurgood Marshall led a civil rights revolution in the twentieth century that forever changed the landscape of American society. Working through the courts to eradicate the legacy of slavery and destroying the racist segregation system of Jim Crow, he had an even more profound impact on race relations than many of his peers in the Movement. As the leader of Legal Defense Fund of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Mr. Marshall won Supreme Court victories breaking the color line in housing, transportation and voting, all of which overturned the 'Separate but Equal' apartheid, which was the oppressive reality of American life for Blacks from emancipation to the 1960's. It was Marshall who was the mastermind behind the strategies which won the most important legal case of the century, *Brown v. Board* in 1954, which ended the legal separation of black and white children in public schools and initiated the dismantling of the legal framework which supported segregation. The success of the *Brown* case sparked the 1960's Civil Rights Movement.

Marshall's first major case in 1933 desegregated the University of Maryland and initiated his long and distinguished career as the most notable civil rights attorney in American history. Heavily involved with the NAACP, Mr. Marshall navigated through the court system a series of cases to legally challenge the laws that sought to legitimize the denial of constitutionally guaranteed civil rights to African Americans. He was even invited by the United Nations and the United Kingdom to help draft the constitutions of both newly formed Ghana and Tanzania.

As a result of the success of many of his Supreme Court challenges to state sponsored

discrimination, President John F. Kennedy appointed Mr. Marshall to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. As a Federal Court judge Thurgood Marshall wrote over 150 decisions including support for immigrants' rights, limiting government intrusion in cases involving illegal search and seizure, double jeopardy, and right to privacy issues. As U.S. Solicitor General, Mr. Marshall won 14 of the 19 cases he argued in front of the Supreme Court on behalf of the government. Through this position he represented and won more cases before the Supreme Court than any other American. Therefore it was befitting that in 1967 Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him to the Supreme Court, making Thurgood Marshall the first African American to be a Supreme Court Justice.

Throughout his tenure as a Supreme Court Justice, Marshall was a strong advocate for equal rights under the law. He strongly believed that integration was the only route to achieving equal protection for all. Once individual rights were accepted, blacks and whites could rise or fall based on their own ability. However, Justice Marshall believed that the Constitution was inherently defective in its acceptance of slavery, and he made it clear that while legal discrimination had ended, there was more to be done to advance educational opportunity for people who had been locked out and to bridge the wide canyon of economic inequity between blacks and whites. Therefore he was a very strong advocate for programs such as Affirmative Action, preferences, set-asides and other race conscious policies.

Although Thurgood Marshall worked most of his life on behalf of the rights of African Americans, he built a structure of individual rights that became the cornerstone of protections for all Americans. He succeeded in creating new protections under law for women, children, prisoners, and the homeless. Justice Marshall "refused to acquiesce in outdated notions of 'liberty', 'justice' and 'equality,'" and worked to better them. Therefore, as we now experience the process of appointing a new Supreme Court Justice, let us remember the life and legacy of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. For his strength and struggle has contributed greatly to American history and his impact on the Supreme Court fully represents the true essence and purpose of our Constitution.

I believe it is most appropriate at this time in our national history to recognize and honor Thurgood Marshall in a special manner. That is why I have introduced a bill to authorize the minting of a special coin in honor of Thurgood Marshall. I submit the text of my proposal legislation for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and ask for the support of its early consideration and passage.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on September 29, 2005, I was unable to vote during rollcall votes Nos. 502 to 508 as I had to attend a funeral in my district.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on H. Res. 470, H. Res. 388, and H.J.

Res. 68. I would have voted "aye" on H. Con. Res. 178.

Also, I would have voted "nay" on H.R. 3824, the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act of 2005 because in reality this bill is a threat to the recovery of endangered species in our nation. However, I would have voted "aye" on the Miller substitute to H.R. 3824.

#### HONORING ST. NICHOLAS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN WILKES- BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA, AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 150TH ANNI- VERSARY

##### HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay special tribute to St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary on Oct. 16, 2005.

A century and a half ago, a small group of German immigrants joined together to form a church where they could worship in the traditions instilled in them by their ancestors and provide a religious education for their children and for the generations to follow.

Their effort took root and quickly flourished. Soon, a small wooden church appeared to provide a place to worship and then a school. Both structures filled quickly and the need to build even larger facilities was evident.

In 1883, the congregation started construction on a magnificent Gothic edifice that remains to this day and can accommodate up to 1,200 worshippers at a given service.

In 1913, anew, larger elementary parochial school was constructed to accommodate an ever growing number of students. A high school was incorporated in 1928, and an auditorium and gymnasium were built in 1930.

The Sisters of Christian Charity, organized in Germany, joined St. Nicholas Parish as the school teachers in the early 1870s and they remain in a leadership role to this day. A new convent was built to accommodate their needs in 1963.

The old church rectory was torn down in 1971 and a new residence was built and completed by June, 1972.

The parish steadily acquired adjacent properties over the years and, today, occupies nearly an entire city block bounded by Washington Street, Pennsylvania Avenue and the South Street Bridge.

Now home to more than 1,300 families, the parish maintains more than 40 thriving organizations that minister to all segments of the congregation and the larger community nearby.

Although in existence for 150 years, the parish has had only six pastors, including Monsignors Peter Nagel, Charles Goeckel, Cyriac Staib, Francis Schmitt, Joseph Meier and Joseph Rauscher.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating St. Nicholas Parish on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. A landmark in central city Wilkes-Barre for a century and a half, St. Nicholas Church is well known for much more than just a striking physical presence in the

heart of the community. It has been a shining example of a faith community that ministers to its own while reaching out with a welcoming hand to the larger community in a myriad of ways. The pastor and parishioners of St. Nicholas Church have much about which to celebrate and be proud. We extend to them a hearty wish for continued success as a beacon of spiritual inspiration to those throughout the greater Wyoming Valley.

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED  
SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005**

SPEECH OF

**HON. RICHARD W. POMBO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Chairman, regarding the Judicial jurisdiction under H.R. 3824, the United States District Court shall have jurisdiction over an action by a requestor arising over a written determination under Section 12(d) or a claim for aid under Section 13 of the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act, including the determination of the documentation of the foregone use and the fair market value thereof.

**CELEBRATING HISPANIC  
HERITAGE MONTH**

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate with my amazingly diverse constituents in the 12th Congressional District of California Hispanic Heritage Month. I am grateful that September 15th through October 15th has been set aside to commemorate the extraordinary heritage and the significant contributions that people of Hispanic descent have made to the United States.

Hispanic and Latino influence predates the establishment of our Nation and can be seen in the discovery and founding, as well as the continued prosperity of America. The influence of Mexican Americans, Cuban Americans, and every other American of Hispanic descent, has enriched our country. Currently, 26 Hispanic Americans serve in the House of Representatives, and two serve in the Senate. In every war in American history, Hispanic Americans have displayed valor and courage. Over 1.1 million Hispanic Americans have served in the U.S. armed forces. Indeed, 41 men of Hispanic heritage have received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

KQED, a nationally recognized public broadcaster, has awarded the following four outstanding individuals for their work in the community through the 2005 Latino Heritage Local Heroes. They are but a few of the wonderful people who have worked to make my community great.

Mr. Speaker, Felix Bedolla, a Northern California native, has served in multiple leadership roles in the arts, education, and youth mentoring. Mr. Bedolla is the program director of Aldea/Nuestra Esperanza, which is a Latino Multi-Service Center offering drug, alcohol and mental health counseling and treatment services, parent support groups, Latino youth mentoring programs, and gang violence suppression programs.

Carlotta del Portillo, the Dean of the Mission Campus of City College of San Francisco, has facilitated access to educational opportunities and has developed vocational job training programs, which have provided a great assistance to many Hispanic Americans. Through her service in city government and community groups, Dr. del Portillo has had a positive and lasting effect on human rights, education, the Fire Department, the role of women in the Fire Department, national parks, and so much more.

Mr. Speaker, Joel Garcia has also centered his career on helping others. Specifically, Mr. Garcia contributes to his community by securing access to health and human services to the needy. Joel serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center, Inc., a non-profit, federal-qualified community health center that provides primary care health services in southern Alameda County. He plays an influential role in academia by publishing research on health law, policy, and administration.

I would like to underscore the contributions of my friend, Pedro Gonzalez, who has devoted his life to the city of South San Francisco for many years. As a public servant, he has served as a council member and mayor. Through his career, he has worked for affordable housing, childcare assistance for low-income families, national parks, community service, recreation, and education among many other issues. As president and co-founder of Historical Old Town Homeowners and Renters Association, Pedro implemented the "Siempre Adelante" program, an informational program for the community on parenting and civic participation.

In addition to those honored by KQED, I wish to further single out many other deserving leaders who have contributed so much to my community. These are the giants of government and community service who work so tirelessly around the Peninsula.

Last year, my good friend, José Cisneros was appointed by Mayor Gavin Newsom as Treasurer for the City and County of San Francisco. I have known José for a long time, and as the City's banker and chief investment officer, the City of San Francisco is in very able hands. José Cisneros received his Bachelor of Science from Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and studied for his MBA at Boston University.

Mr. Speaker, the County of San Mateo is lucky to have Ortensia Lopez. As a resident of San Mateo County since 1975 and as the Executive Director of the Concilio of San Mateo County, she has helped to improve public health, energy efficiency, employment, job training, race relations, conditions for the disadvantaged, banking, and commerce. Ms. Lopez was the first member of her family to graduate from college and has won multiple awards, including "Woman Who Could Be President".

Since 1996, Daly City has benefited from the public service of Sal Torres, the city's first elected Latino official. Through his various offices in Daly City, including mayor, vice mayor and city council member, Mr. Torres has shown exemplary leadership in transforming the city into a family and children friendly place. He dedicated the Bayshore Community Center for the use of the Mid-Peninsula Boys and Girls Club as well as several parks. During his years of service Daly City ranked among the top 10 safest cities with populations exceeding 100,000.

The efforts of Elizabeth Quiros as the President of the San Mateo County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce have helped countless Hispanic Americans in my district. Her organization works as an information resource and provides networking and expansion opportunities for all its members. The success of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in promoting Hispanic business, under Ms. Quiros's influence manifested in the Chamber's recognition as the 2004 Small Hispanic Chamber of the Year. Ms. Quiros has worked tirelessly to identify the needs of the Hispanic Community and ensuring equity in the treatment of Hispanic Americans.

Mr. Speaker, the problems that the Hispanic community faces with the Nation as a whole are daunting. According to the latest data and statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Latinos represent 14 percent of the population of the United States but account for 20 percent—over 164,000—of AIDS cases nationally. AIDS-related illnesses represent the fourth leading cause of death among Latinos between 25 and 44. In order to promote awareness and prevention, I support the 3rd Annual National Latino AIDS Awareness Day on October 15, 2005. We need to continue to work toward legislation to help Hispanic Americans.

This month our Nation can take a long look back at the myriad of contributions that the Hispanic community has offered and continues to offer. Hispanic Heritage Month also helps us renew our focus on difficult issues that face this community: racial profiling, affordable housing, language barriers, and unfair immigration policy.

Mr. Speaker, this vibrant part of our community offers an array of perspectives that are firmly woven into the fabric of America, and I am extremely proud to serve as a representative of a community that consists of so many great Americans. I encourage all Americans to participate in this month of celebration. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions that Hispanic Americans have made to our Nation.

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED  
SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005**

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Chairman, the intent of Sec. 25 of H.R. 3824, the Relationship Between Section 7 Consultation and Incident Take Authorization Under Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 is to clarify that when regulations set forth under the Endangered Species Act conflict with regulations set forth under the Marine Mammal Protection Act during the review process for issuing dock permits, it is the regulations set forth under the Endangered Species Act that are the governing authority.

**HONORING HIS HOLINESS ARAM I,  
CATHOLICOS OF THE ARMENIAN  
APOSTOLIC CHURCH**

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the second largest Armenian-American community in the state of California to welcome His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Armenian Apostolic Church. We are honored that His Holiness will be visiting our state during his October pontifical travels.

Catholicos Aram I has served the Armenian Apostolic Church with distinction since he was consecrated as spiritual leader in July of 1995. His major priority has been to reorganize and revitalize the work of the church, particularly in the areas of theological education, cultural activities, youth outreach, and the promotion of peace, justice and human rights. Additionally, he has increased the social service work of the church, improving assistance to orphans, to vulnerable children, to the elderly, and to the disabled.

I am particularly grateful that His Holiness will be visiting the 38th Congressional District on Oct. 8th, where he will attend a ceremony at the Armenian Genocide Monument at Bicknell Park in the city of Montebello. This is the only Armenian Genocide Monument to reside on public property in the United States. It is a reminder to our communities of the horrible atrocities that befell the Armenian people 90 years ago, and the world's continuing struggle against genocide wherever it occurs.

Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege to serve my constituency on the Committee on International Relations, which recently passed H. Con. Res. 195, Commemorating and Recognizing the Armenian Genocide, and H. Res. 316, Affirming the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide. H. Con. Res. 195 acknowledges the systematic and deliberate annihilation of 1.5 million Armenians by the Ottoman Empire, and H. Res. 316 recalls the proud history of U.S. intervention in opposition to the Armenian Genocide. I hope the full House will have an opportunity to vote on and pass these important bills. The United States Congress must honor the many survivors of the Armenian Genocide who have made our nation and my district their home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming His Holiness Aram I as he visits the Armenian Genocide Monument in Montebello, CA. This will be a rare opportunity for the Armenian Apostolic community in my district to hear from their spiritual leader. My district, the Los Angeles region, and the state of California are deeply honored by his visit.

**NUCLEAR MEDICINE WEEK**

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues that October 2–October 8 is Nuclear Medicine Week. Celebrated at hospitals, clinics, imaging centers, educational institutions, and corporations around the world the first full week of October each year, Nuclear Medicine Week encourages members of the nuclear medicine community to take pride in their profession.

I am proud to note that the Society of Nuclear Medicine is headquartered in Reston, Virginia in my congressional district. The Society is an international scientific and professional organization of more than 15,000 members dedicated to promoting the science, technology, and practical application of nuclear medicine. I commend the Society staff and its professional members for their outstanding work and dedication to caring for people with cancer and other serious, life-threatening illnesses that are diagnosed, managed, and treated with medical isotopes via nuclear medicine procedures.

Nuclear medicine is a medical specialty that involves the use of small amounts of medical isotopes called "tracers" to help diagnose and treat a variety of diseases. These tracers are introduced into the body by injection, swallowing, or inhalation. A special camera, called gamma camera, detects the medical isotope in the target organ, bone, or tissue and forms an image that provides data and information about the imaged area of the body. This is how nuclear medicine differs an x-ray, ultrasound or other diagnostic test—it determines the presence of disease based on function rather than anatomy.

Nuclear medicine tests are safe and painless and often identify abnormalities very early in the progression of a disease—long before some medical problems are apparent through other diagnostic tests. This early detection allows a disease to be treated in its beginning stages, which significantly improves the odds of a successful outcome.

An estimated 16 million nuclear medicine imaging and therapeutic procedures are performed on 20 million individuals each year in the United States. These procedures are a vital tool in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with cancers of the brain, breast, blood, bone, bone marrow, liver, lungs, pancreas, thyroid, ovaries, and prostate, as well as cardiovascular disease, neurological disorders such as stroke and Alzheimer's disease, and kidney disease.

Some of the more frequently performed nuclear medicine procedures include:

Bone scans to examine orthopedic injuries, fractures, tumors or unexplained bone pain.

Heart scans to identify normal or abnormal blood flow to the heart muscle, measure heart function or determine the existence or extent of damage to the heart muscle after a heart attack.

Breast scans that are used in conjunction with mammograms to more accurately detect and locate cancerous tissue in the breasts.

Liver and gallbladder scans to evaluate liver and gallbladder function.

Cancer imaging to detect tumors and determine the severity (staging) of various types of cancer.

Treatment of thyroid diseases and certain types of cancer.

Brain imaging to investigate problems within the brain itself or in blood circulation to the brain.

Renal imaging in children to examine kidney function.

Unfortunately, funding for nuclear medicine research is in jeopardy. The President's FY 2006 Budget cut the Medical Applications and Measurement Science, MAMS, Program at the Department of Energy, DOE, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, OBER, from \$37 million to \$14 million and earmarked the remaining funds for research unrelated to nuclear medicine. The DOE has funded nuclear medicine research for over 50 years. Fortunately, the House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee restored \$35 million for the MAMS Program, but the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bill is silent on this matter. It is vital that this small but highly successful program receive funding at the House level in conference. The MAMS Program is directly responsible for the creation of positron emission tomography, PET, and current research projects will create the next generation imaging procedures that will save lives.

I encourage my colleagues to support Nuclear Medicine Week and to support the House funding level for the MAMS Program so that our nation will continue to be at the cutting edge of life saving nuclear medicine and imaging research.

**A STATEMENT ON TAIWAN  
NATIONAL DAY**

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of National Day on October 10.

The Republic of China (Taiwan) is our ally in the Pacific. Although it is a small island nation, it has a growing and progressive economy, providing its citizens with quality education, health care and affordable housing. In a recent survey conducted by the Geneva-based World Economic Forum, Taiwan was ranked first in Asia and fifth in the world in terms of growth competitiveness. With its well-educated population, Taiwan is an ideal training ground and place for business entrepreneurship. Much of Taiwan's economic prowess is directly attributable to Taiwan's political system.

A vibrant democracy, Taiwan's history of democratization is an important example of how other countries can change. In 2 decades Taiwan has peacefully transformed its political system, from authoritarian to democratic government, providing a role model for other non-democratic political governments in Asia. In view of China's growing military strength and intentions, the best way to safeguard Asia's permanent peace and prosperity is to have all Asian countries join forces with other democratic countries in the world to form a global community of democracies. In the meantime, we hope democracy will take roots in China. Taiwan's successful democratic experience proves that democracy can indeed thrive on Chinese soil.



We also hope that in the months and years ahead, Taiwan and China will reach a rapprochement of sorts. Taiwan has made efforts to expand cross-strait exchanges in the fields of journalism, information exchange, education, culture and trade in endeavoring to foster mutual trust. Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian has adopted a policy of reconciliation and goodwill toward China. I hope Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian and PRC President Hu Jintao will soon meet and discuss cross-strait issues. A unified China under the principles of freedom, democracy and prosperity is the dream of all peace-loving people.

Again, congratulations to the people of the Republic of China on their National Day.

#### RECOGNIZING KEITA AND HAYATO ISHIBASHI

#### HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 2 young men whose musical talents are exceeded only by their commitment and dedication. As a former high school teacher and coach, I know how important it is to recognize the achievements of our youth. Keita and Hayato Ishibashi are role models for all who believe that creativity and hard work lead to the American dream of success. Both are students at Rancho Bernardo High School, and both are violinists of the highest caliber.

Only 16 years old, Keita has appeared several times with the San Diego Symphony. In fact, he made his career debut with the San Diego Symphony at the age of 13. Keita performed for the last five summers at the Viana do Castelo International Music Festival in Portugal, and he performed in the summer of 2000 at an international music festival in Saluzzo, Italy. He has a resumé that any musical prodigy would be proud of. The high school junior began playing the violin in Tokyo, Japan, at the age of three on a 1/16th size instrument. At the age of four, Keita performed publicly at a concert hall in Japan shortly before coming to the United States with his family. It was not long before he began attending international music festivals in cities that included Seattle, Washington; Santa Rosa, California; and Aspen, Colorado.

Meanwhile, Keita's younger brother Hayato was also starting to get his musical legs. Hayato began taking violin lessons in the United States at the age of four. Soon, he, too, began participating in the same music festivals as his older brother. The purpose of the festivals is to help young artists develop their musicianship through an extensive curriculum that includes experience with master classes, chamber groups, and orchestras.

The sons of Shinji and Akemi Ishibashi have enjoyed many high notes in their young musical careers, and they include numerous prestigious competitions. Earlier this year Keita won the First Place Award in the San Diego Symphony's Young Artist Competition, and he received an Honorable Mention Award at the La Jolla Symphony's Young Artist Competition. At the La Jolla Symphony competition, Keita was the youngest participant in a field of 25-to-30 young musicians. The oldest was about 23. Last year, Keita won the blue ribbon

at the San Diego Youth Symphony's Concerto Competition, and in 1999 another First Place at the El Camino Youth Symphony's Concerto Competition.

Like his older brother, 14-year-old high school freshman Hayato has an affinity for high notes of his own. Hayato's 2005 First Place finish at the Young Musicians Foundation's 50th Annual National Debut Competition resulted in an invitation to play with the foundation's symphony orchestra in Los Angeles, California, in October of this year and again in January of 2006. Hayato tied for Second Place at the California International Young Artist Competition last April. He won a Third Place Award in the San Diego Youth Symphony's 2004 Concerto Competition, and he was declared a national semi-finalist at the American String Teachers Association's 2003 Competition in Sacramento, California. During the latter competition, Hayato performed Concerto No.1 by Niccolò Paganini and Concerto No.1 by Max Bruch. Both were recorded on CD and are available through recorded music sources.

Currently, Keita is concertmaster and first chair of the chamber and symphony orchestras at Rancho Bernardo High School, and Hayato is a new and welcome addition to the school's music department. Each of them is pursuing his dream, and in so doing each of them is setting an example for all of us. My sincere congratulations go to Keita and Hayato, and I wish you both continued success throughout your academic and musical careers.

#### CONGRATULATING SEAN HUGHES

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sean Hughes who has recently been recognized by the International Association of Emergency Managers as a Certified Emergency Manager. The designation is the highest honor of professional achievement available from the international association, which has more than 2,700 members.

Mr. Hughes has worked for the City of North Richland Hills, in my home district since 1987. He has an Associate's Degree from Clackamas Community College, a Bachelors Degree from the University of North Texas and is currently doing graduate work towards a Master of Science in Emergency Management.

Mr. Hughes is a Texas Certified Emergency Manager, Master Firefighter, Master Arson Investigator, Master Instructor and Advanced Peace Officer. He has completed the FEMA Professional Development Series and has received numerous awards including the Fire Department Medal of Valor.

The emergency management certification program was developed by the International Association of Emergency Managers with funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and guidance from an advisory board. Candidates for the certification are reviewed by a Commission of 19 respected professionals in the field and must complete a written examination and management essay. The commission considers each candidate's

experience, references, education, training and contributions to the profession. Since 1993, the association has recognized 954 professionals with the Certified Emergency Manager designation. Sean Hughes is the third emergency management professional in Tarrant County to receive the designation.

I am proud to recognize Sean Hughes for his accomplishments and to have him represent the North Richland Hills Community and the 26th District of Texas.

#### INTRODUCING A BILL DESIGNATING A POST OFFICE AFTER LILLIAN KINKELLA KEIL

#### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill designating a post office after Lillian Kinkella Keil, the most decorated female veteran in U.S. military history. Lillian Keil was a long time resident of Covina, California, in my Congressional District.

Lillian Keil was born in 1917 in Arcata, California, and raised in a convent. As she watched the nuns take care of the sick, she was drawn to nursing. She became one of the first generation of stewardesses for United Airlines when many early flight attendants were nurses. In 1943, she joined the Army Air Corps (which later became the U.S. Air Force) as a flight nurse to serve in World War II. She rose to rank of Captain.

Captain Lillian Keil has been called an "Airborne Florence Nightingale." As a flight nurse, she helped to evacuate thousands of wounded U.S. troops from the battlefields during World War II and the Korean War. She flew more than 425 combat evacuation missions, rescuing men who fought in the Battle of Bulge and in Normandy during the D-Day invasion. She also was part of a team that followed General Patton's army across France with cargos of crucial supplies.

Captain Lillian Keil died of cancer at the age of 88 earlier this year. Her life and decorated service to our country serve as an inspiration to current and future generations of Americans, particularly women serving in the U.S. military. Through it all, Captain Lillian Keil won the hearts and touched the lives of countless service members and their families. She never questioned what she needed to do and she was proud of her service.

After serving her country, Captain Lillian Keil became an active member of various veterans' organizations. She was a member of the Veterans of Foreign War 8620 in West Covina, California, and the American Legion Post 790 in West Covina. She also belonged to the Chosin Few Veterans Military Organization.

I am pleased that my colleagues from the California delegation have joined me in support of this bill. This legislation also enjoys support at the local level. Both the City of Covina and West Covina have expressed their support for naming the post office located at 545 North Rimsdale in Covina, California, after Lillian Kinkella Keil.

My heart and my prayers go out to the family and friends of Captain Lillian Keil, as well as to those who have lost their loved ones during these turbulent times. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Captain Lillian Keil. This bill symbolizes the gratitude and

admiration we have for our nation's soldiers who risk their life to defend our country.

RECOGNIZING A STATEMENT BY  
RABBI ISRAEL ZOBERMAN, SPIRITUAL  
LEADER OF CONGREGATION BETH CHAVERIM IN VIRGINIA BEACH

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a statement by Rabbi Israel Zoberman, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, Virginia in recognition of the hope of peace created by recent Middle East developments.

Israel's historic disengagement from Gaza and parts of the West Bank has begun on August 15, 2005. These unilateral acts by a democratic Israel, though coordinated with the Palestinian Authority, approved by its government and Knesset, and commanding a majority in the Israeli public, are nonetheless painful and controversial in uprooting thousands of Israeli settlers from areas associated with Biblical Israel gained following the 1967 Six-Day War.

Paradoxically, that miraculous victory by a gravely threatened Israel facilitated through a pre-emptive strike by the superb Israeli Air Force that destroyed the Egyptian planes still on the ground, saddled Israel with two challenging dilemmas; a recalcitrant, fast growing Palestinian population with its own national aspirations and a rising messianic Judaism mesmerized by a universal redemptive vision rooted in the stunning return to the ancient inheritance with every inch of it consequential, flying in the face of classical Zionism's operative principle of compromise with the Arabs.

I surely sympathize with fellow Jews who accomplished much and whose lives are now dramatically impacted with their realities and dreams undergoing demanding change. We also recognize that both Likud and Labor-led governments encouraged the settlement enterprise as a patriotic act. How ironic and symbol-laden that Prime Minister Sharon is the one presiding over the transfer of territory that he was the grand architect of settling, stamped by his unique style of charismatic leadership and pioneering zeal. I personally witnessed during earlier missions to Israel the enthusiastic use of dotted maps by the once hero of the settlers' movement and the political Right who has turned into their maligned figure, making him into the most guarded man on earth.

How history repeats itself with altered twists. It was Sharon who as Defense Minister ordered the destruction of Yamit in 1982 in the wake of the 1979 peace treaty with Egypt which included the Sinai Peninsula's loss. It is this courageously transformed Prime Minister Sharon who, following the bloody Second Intifada of barbaric suicide bombings against Israel's civilian population, the death of his longstanding nemesis Chairman Arafat and the yet unsettling murder of Prime Minister Rabin by a fanatic Jew, has finally decided to act.

He thus offsets world pressure and begins to draw, with the Road Map's backdrop,

Israel's future boundaries sans the Palestinian demographic trap, signaling with sacrificial acts to the Palestinian Authority Israel's abiding interest in reaching a peace agreement and its commitment to establishing a Palestinian state. The Israeli military is also freed from the cumbersome and expensive yoke of guarding the Gaza settlers, attempting to preserve the genuinely Biblically connected major blocks of West Bank settlements, assuring greater Jerusalem's Jewish destiny.

This realistic Zionist vision comes with the heavy and traumatic price of relocating Israelis whose majority peacefully complies albeit with some understandable legal demonstration. However, a hard core minority with outside agitators seems bent on resisting the order to evacuate in spite of offered compensation, even as we pray that in the moment of truth the tragically unacceptable scenario of Jew fighting Jew will be averted. To be sure, the state's authority properly carried out should prevail to safeguard its very foundation.

What is described as Israel's most fateful internal test since 1948, will hopefully prove a rallying point for reordering the only Jewish state's priorities toward applying its limited resources to pressing economic, social and educational needs along with focusing on the holy as well southern Negev and northern Galilee, without which an enduring Israel is truly at risk, quality-wise and physically.

The Palestinian Authority has a golden opportunity and responsibility, not to be missed, assuring that violence from its midst will not interfere with Israel's forthcoming move which benefits both sides to this far too long and costly entanglement. Indeed, the challenge for President Abbas remains to put an end to Palestinian terrorism and competing organizations such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad, undermining both Israel's and his own dreams for his people. How his leadership will run the evacuated territory will be indicative of what's in store for a future Palestine state. Active American involvement and essential support remain key for the prospect of peace and prosperity to the entire turbulent region bearing upon the world at large these eventful times.

Rabbi Israel Zoberman is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach. He grew up in Haifa, Israel.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREATER MIAMI CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INC.

**HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Greater Miami Chapter of The Links, Inc., on their 50th year of outstanding commitment to community service. The ceremony recognizing this important milestone will be held on Sunday, October 16, 2005, at Florida Memorial University, Miami, Florida.

The Greater Miami Chapter was chartered on Saturday, November 5, 1955, when founding members Maude K. Reid, Mayme E. Williams, and Susie W. Francis brought together 15 other charter members for an installation ceremony at the Carver Hotel in Overtown.

During its 50th anniversary celebration, the chapter will honor 7 honorees: charter member Susie W. Francis, Frances J. Chambers, Gwendolyn H. Welters, Dorothy J. Fields, Ph.D.; Castell V. Bryant, Ed.D., Regina J. Frazier, and Senator Frederica S. Wilson.

The Greater Miami Chapter lists among its many accomplishments programs that bolster the arts, promote awareness of international issues and multicultural events, and assist young people in reaching their full potential.

Nationally, The Links, Inc. has grown to 274 chapters and approximately 11,000 members who reside in 42 states, the District of Columbia, the Bahamas, Germany and South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years after their founding, the members of the Greater Miami Chapter of The Links, Inc. are a powerful force for change in the South Florida Community. I thank them for all of their efforts, and wish them another successful 50 years of making a positive impact in the lives of others.

DAYS OF AWE: FORGIVENESS,  
ATONEMENT AND PEACE

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to wish L'Shanah Tova "Good Year" to my Jewish friends in Congress and to Jewish people around the world as they begin the celebration of the Days of Awe: the sacred Holy Days beginning with Rosh Hashanah continuing to the holiest day Yom Kippur, which falls on October 13, 2005. To those Jews who must feel the most forgotten and alone whether in Ethiopia, Iraq, Iran, Syria, and the remnants still living in poverty in Poland, Russia and other parts of Eastern Europe who can only celebrate these Holy Days in their hearts, I rise to say you are not forgotten.

For Jewish people Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur as well as the days between are the most solemn of all the Jewish Holidays and for some the most important. These ten days are sometimes known as the Days of Remembrance, the Days of Repentance and the Days of Awe. Unlike other Jewish holidays and festivals which are closely tied to harvests and changes of seasons, the High Holy Days are spiritual days of soul-searching and prayer.

Rosh Hashanah is a beginning of a spiritual new year, when each Jew can ask forgiveness for sin of conduct and of the heart, atone for those sins and begin again asking God to inscribe him or her in the "Book of Life." On Rosh Hashanah the Book is opened. The Shofar, the curled ram's horn, calls the Jewish people to gather together to pray on Rosh Hashanah as the Book of Life is opened, just as it has for the last 3000 years.

The Jewish liturgy or prayers said during this holiday not only ask for forgiveness from God for sins against both of conduct and of the heart, the prayers remind the people that they cannot be forgiven by God for sins committed against their fellow man. For forgiveness from others, they must atone by seeking it from the people they have hurt and doing charity. The liturgy, both the ancient derived from many beloved psalms as well as newer liturgy, which recognizes political realities of

our time, center on ethical concerns, searching for the core of the ethical human being, the meaning of righteousness and good.

For Jewish people this High Holy Day is one for evaluating their conduct of the past year, not only toward their fellow man, but for all the creatures of the earth and for the earth itself. This re-thinking of their conduct requires each person to examine his or her moral and spiritual values, principles, ethical standards, in other words the moral core of their being. The Jews from ancient times valued these high holy days more than the other holidays and traveled to the Temple in Jerusalem so the High Priests could perform the spiritual rituals that would cleanse them of their sins and seek blessings of peace for them and inscribe each with his or loved ones in the Book of Life. This day is the beginning of the Jewish calendar year. It is a beginning in a spiritual sense which is more important than a change in the calendar.

For the Jewish people, each Rosh Hashanah is a new year that is one more step in a history thousands of years long. Jewish people strive to understand the values of our forebears and build on what has gone before. Jewish people all over the world read from the writings of the sages who wrote during the long exile in Babylon a model for moral behavior:

"The one who proceeds with integrity, and takes action for justice, and speaks truth with their heart, the one who does no harm to others, and does not raise trouble for their neighbor. . . ."

On Rosh Hashanah Jews also reflect on the words of Isaiah,

"Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean. Put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes. Cease to do evil; learn what is good. Seek justice; relieve the oppressed; Speak out for the orphan; advocate for the widow."—Isaiah, I: 16-17

The prayers are also a promise to God to strive for peace. In this Holy Day liturgy which spans the millennia, the Jewish people around the world pray for God's peace: Bring peace, the Jews sing, peace to the Jews and to the whole world.

The second High Holy Day, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the most solemn day of the Jewish year. Yom Kippur is a day of fasting, reflection and prayers. The names of this day in Hebrew are many: Yom HaZikaron, "Day of remembrance," Yom ha-Din "Day of Judgment", the day on which God judges all human beings by their deeds during the year just ended and inscribes their fate in the heavenly record book for the next year. Some believe the Book of Life will close at sundown on Yom Kippur. As the sun slowly sinks in the sky, the fasting people stand for the entire evening service. Some believe literally, others believe metaphorically, that on this day God has determined who will live, and who will die. They make a last plea for their loved ones and themselves. They also pledge to live the ethical life they believe is required of them by soul or spirit that is the spark of God in them. In Judaism, ethics are the foundation of prayer and the theology of prayer. This is most evident on the High Holy Days.

Yom Kippur is also called in Hebrew, Yom Teruah, "The Day of the Sounding of the Shofar" In the ancient past trumpet sound called the people together to repent sins, to forsake evil and to pursue goodness and mercy. One

of the most important observances of this holiday is hearing the repeated trumpeting sound of the Shofar in the synagogue.

For most Jews the call of the Shofar is a reminder of their rich heritage, the centuries in a Diaspora when they had nothing but their Holy Book and their liturgy. The call of the Shofar reminds Jews they survived the Roman Empire which burned their Holy Temple twice and drove them to exile; survived expulsion from Spain, survived pogroms, poverty and restrictive regulations in Russia and Eastern Europe and even survived the Nazi "final solution, genocide the murder of their men, women and their babies; survived to have a Jewish Country and flag. In all that time and through all those trials, the Jews of the world have kept their Holy Days. Their Holy Book is unchanged from the day they took it into exile. The Jews have lived now to hear the Shofar blown in Israel as it was before the Diaspora. The liturgy has remained as it was in ancient times, but in the last century prayers and remembrances have been added for the victims of the Holocaust.

The words of the Kaddish are a hymn that praises God. It is a public declaration of the Jewish belief that God is Great and Holy and it envisions a time when Peace will be established on earth. One form of the prayer says "may He who makes peace in heaven, make peace for us."

On the High Holy Days, the Days of Awe of 2005, I join with my Jewish friends and wish peace for us.

#### HONORING ANDREA LEIDERMAN

#### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and contributions of Ms. Andrea Leiderman who recently passed away. Andrea is survived by her parents and siblings, and her loving husband, Hayes Alexander, III. She will be sorely missed by her many friends and our community. Today, I honor her energy, her determination and her life-long service to the Bay Area community.

Andrea Naomi Leiderman was born on August 8, 1959 in Boston, Massachusetts, to Drs. Herbert and Gloria Leiderman. The family moved west when Andrea, the youngest of four children, was four years old. Andrea grew up on the Stanford campus where her father is a professor emeritus, and has always been politically active. As a child, she organized a school grape boycott in support of the United Farm Workers; as an adult, she worked on the presidential campaigns of George McGovern, Jimmy Carter and Alan Cranston.

Andrea attended Vassar College, majoring in political science. After college, she worked as a legislative assistant to former New York Representative Matt McHugh and, later, as the LBJ Congressional Fellow to former California Representative Norman Mineta, currently U.S. Secretary of Transportation. Andrea also served as an aide to County Supervisor Jim Beall during his tenure on the San Jose City Council.

Andrea was only 28 years old when she was elected as chairwoman of the Santa Clara County Democratic Party. She was also elect-

ed as chair of the Women's Caucus, and received the highest number of votes in delegate elections.

Andrea served on the Santa Clara County Board of Education, including two terms as President of the Board in 1995 and 2000. Andrea spearheaded school board policy on neighborhood outreach while advocating workforce education and emphasizing assistance to underrepresented students. She was also a valued trustee of the Foothill-DeAnza Community College District.

Most recently, Andrea was Director of Government and Community Relations for Kaiser Permanente's South Bay facilities, using her experience in the public sector to promote healthcare. She was a dedicated and committed worker until the end.

Andrea Leiderman died at the very young age of 46, on September 11, 2005. When she passed away, our community lost one of its most dynamic community activists—an advocate of minority rights, social justice, education and equality.

#### IN HONOR OF COACH SAM MILLS

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a distinguished athlete from my district, Carolina Panthers' Linebacker Coach Sam Mills. Unfortunately, after fighting cancer for two years, Mr. Mills passed away on April 18, 2005 at the age of 45.

Not only did Mr. Mills play in the NFL for twelve seasons, he used his expertise to coach the Panthers' linebackers. Sam Mills played his first nine seasons with the New Orleans Saints and his last three with the Panthers. He earned five Pro Bowl selections, including one while playing for Carolina in 1996. Sam was the second member of the Panthers Hall of Fame and was elected to the Sports Hall of Fame of New Jersey in 2003. Despite injuries to two of his best linebackers last season, Coach Mills led his linebacking corps to be an integral part of a defense that has ranked in the top ten for the past two seasons.

John Fox, the head coach of the Carolina Panthers, stated upon Mills' passing, ". . . as a coach he made the players better; as a friend he made us all better".

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in acknowledging the life and work of this exceptional individual. I wish to honor Coach Sam Mills for his ability to impart his skills and intelligence upon his players and for his outstanding career as both a professional player and coach.

#### TRIBUTE TO GRANDPARENTS AND OTHER RELATIVES WHO ARE CAREGIVERS

#### HON. BOB BEAUPREZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, across the country there are more than 6 million children

living in grandparent and other relative headed households. About 2.5 million of these children are living in homes without either parent present. Regardless of the many reasons children enter relative care, including death of a parent, neglect, and substance abuse, it is never, ever the fault of the child. I commend grandparents and other relatives who step forward to care for these children, keeping them out of foster care while providing safe, stable, homes, often at great personal and financial sacrifice.

Stories of a 78-year-old grandmother raising a four year old, a 71-year-old grandfather raising 5 teenagers, or a single grandmother raising more than 6 grandchildren are all too common throughout Colorado and our nation.

Grandparents and other relative caregivers are often the best chance for a loving and stable childhood for the children in their care, but their hard work and dedication often goes unnoticed. Mr. Speaker, today, I offer my formal acknowledgement and deepest appreciation for the ongoing service of these caregivers to our country and our nation's most valuable asset, our children.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF SIMON WIESENTHAL

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 6, 2005*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues and the world community in honoring the life and work of Simon Wiesenthal. Especially during the High Holidays, it is important and appropriate to recognize the extraordinary achievements of a man who devoted the last 60 years of his life to the pursuit of justice for the victims of the Holocaust. Hitler's Nazi regime was responsible for the murders of nearly six million Jewish men, women, and children and more than 11 million people overall.

Today, the relentless efforts of Simon Wiesenthal have led to the conviction of more than 1,000 of these Nazi war criminals. He was instrumental in the captures of Adolf Eichmann, the architect of the Nazi plan to annihilate the European Jewish population, and Karl Silberbauer, the Gestapo officer responsible for the arrest and deportation of Anne Frank.

Although Simon Wiesenthal has passed away, his memory will live on forever. One way to ensure this is through the work of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. The organization actively promotes awareness of anti-Semitism while continuing to bring to justice surviving Nazi war criminals. Although its headquarters are located in Los Angeles, I am proud that my district is home to the Simon Wiesenthal New York Tolerance Center.

I urge the House today to reaffirm our commitment to the fight against anti-Semitism and all forms of prejudice. Simon Wiesenthal's legacy teaches us that the perpetrators of genocide cannot be allowed to continue their path of persecution. It is crucial for Congress to continue to support Holocaust organizations like the Simon Wiesenthal Center so that history does not repeat itself. Simon Wiesenthal once said; "When we come to the other world [after death] and meet the millions of Jews

who died in the camps and they ask us, 'What have you done?'. . . I will say, 'I didn't forget you'." It is important that we take another step to remember the man who would never consider the atrocities of the Holocaust a part of the past.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2006 THROUGH 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID DREIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3402) to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, and for other purposes:

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the amendment I am offering with my friends Mr. KOLBE and Chairman LEWIS to reauthorize the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.

Illegal immigration is a critical federal responsibility and a serious local problem. Local law enforcement are on the front lines when it comes to keeping neighborhoods safe from illegal immigrants who commit crimes. Our officers are forced to shoulder the added burden of punishing undocumented individuals who endanger our communities.

The SCAAP program is designed to fulfill the federal government's responsibility to reimburse states and localities for the significant costs they incur when jailing illegal aliens. Passage of this amendment will demonstrate our unwavering support for local law enforcement as they uphold the law and protect our communities.

This amendment authorizes \$750 million for SCAAP in fiscal year 2006, \$850 million for 2007, and \$950 million for each of fiscal years 2008–2011. While significant, this money represents only a fraction of the true costs incurred by state and local governments. California alone spends more than \$750 million each year to jail criminal illegal aliens.

The amendment also adds an additional measure of accountability and oversight to the SCAAP program. It requires the DOJ Inspector General to report to Congress on how effectively jurisdictions that receive SCAAP funding are cooperating with the Department of Homeland Security on deporting criminal aliens. Clearly, it is a national security priority and a local necessity to deport criminal aliens. This measure will help keep the federal focus on securing the borders, right where it should be.

It is also important to note that the SCAAP program is not only critical for border states, such as California and Arizona, which Mr. KOLBE, Mr. LEWIS and I are privileged to represent. States with the highest growth in illegal immigrants include North Carolina and Iowa. SCAAP has assisted all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Let's stand with our local law enforcement and support robust funding for SCAAP. Support the Kolbe/Dreier/Lewis amendment.

#### KYRGYZSTAN LEADERSHIP ON GLOBAL SECURITY, DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, in his September 17, 2005, address to the 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Kurmanbek Bakiev, President of the Kyrgyz Republic, called on his fellow Heads of State to join him in supporting U.N. peace keeping by fighting poverty and promoting democratic development. President Bakiev told the U.N. General Assembly "it is no accident that exactly in the poorest regions of the world the most serious regional conflicts arise".

Kyrgyzstan, the only state in Central Asia that participates in peace making efforts by the United Nations, has directed military observers and staff officers to the missions of the United Nations in Liberia, Burundi, Sierra Leone, Serbia, Kosovo, and Sudan. On September 23, 2005, Leandro Despouy, Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, praised Kyrgyzstan's courageous leadership in supporting the resettlement of Uzbek refugees to third countries along with its commitment to the Geneva Convention. Mr. Despouy called on international donors to provide financial support for Kyrgyzstan's reform programs.

Kyrgyzstan has also been a critical ally in the international community's efforts to rebuild and strengthen Afghanistan. It has made its territory available to the coalition to combat terrorism and promote regional safety and security.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my congressional colleagues President Bakiev's September 17, 2005, address to the United Nations' 60th General Assembly and ask that it be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Secretary General, dear delegates, ladies and gentlemen, first of all, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your election to the responsible post of Chairman of the Sixtieth Anniversary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and to wish you every success in so honorable and noble a mission. Let me also express words of gratitude to your predecessor Mr. Jean Ping for the successful moderation of the previous session of the Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, the Summit of the United Nations which came to an end yesterday confirmed that the United Nations Organization remains the universal organization capable of bringing important contributions to the matters of strengthening international peace and security, the maintenance of sustainable development, and the search for adequate answers to new global challenges and threats. In this regard, I hope that the 60th Anniversary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations becomes the major event in our time, and will give to all mankind a feeling of confidence and hope in our future.

Rapid changes in the world have not bypassed Kyrgyzstan. Our people, not remaining indifferent to its own destiny, in March of this year have chosen the way of development, progress and creativity. In the new history of Kyrgyzstan, one more page has been turned. We enter into the 21st century with firm determination to realize the deep

expectations and hopes for peace, prosperity, progress and freedom. We are confident that the goals reflected in the Millennium Declaration will be realized fully for the benefit of each person in the Kyrgyz Republic.

To keep the respect and to justify hopes of people, the United Nations cannot lag behind the fast and accelerated changes in the world. It should not only respond to these realities, but also create more effective mechanisms of prevention and confrontation to both new challenges and risks.

In this regard, we in Kyrgyzstan are deeply convinced that reform of the United Nations should be reflective of the will, the fundamental rights and interests of all states-members and people.

In previous years, the Security Council has been repeatedly criticized for failures in the field of maintenance of international peace and security. Therefore, for all of us, it is extremely important that the Security Council most effectively carry out the basic preservation of peace, international order and tranquility. Kyrgyzstan consistently supports expansion of the membership of the Security Council and reforming of its methods of work so that it will become more representative and democratic, and consequently more effective. It is our belief that the reform of the Security Council should be based on principles of universality, efficiency and wide geographical representation. Decisions of the Security Council should be, as much as possible, timely, and their implementation correspondingly expeditious.

The Kyrgyz Republic shares the position that reform of the system of the United Nations will be successful only insofar as the reform of the Security Council will be followed with reform of both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. We support the efforts aimed at the more pervasive activity of the General Assembly and strengthening of coordination functions of the Economic and Social Council. Effective coordination between these three principal bodies is extremely important for the complex decision making regarding current urgent problems.

We all realize how great and complex are the challenges facing the United Nations in the area of maintenance of global peace and security. In this regard, I would like to note that Kyrgyzstan also intends to make a contribution. And for the first time, it has nominated its own candidature for non-permanent membership of the Security Council for the period of 2012-2013. We realize the full extent of membership responsibility in this key body of the United Nations Organization. I can assure you that Kyrgyzstan will use its best efforts to activate cooperation with the member states in all regions and become the reliable partner in the decisions of global policy.

Mr. Chairman, I would like also to note that today the United Nations and its institutes are more engaged with the issues of development than security. In a scene in which many organizations of the United Nations system constantly deal with problems of development, there is only one constantly operating body which deals with problems of security. In our opinion in conditions of globalization and strengthening of interdependence and the risks connected both with technological and natural disasters along with international terrorism and extremism, the functions of the United Nations on maintenance of global security should be considerably strengthened. In this regard, along with the programs connected with development, the preventive measures directed to security also should be strengthened.

The history of international affairs of the second half of the last century shows that it is practically impossible to support success-

fully international peace and security until the basic conditions necessary for people's existence are created. Poverty and deprivation often bring to escalation the infringements of international peace and security. It is no accident that exactly in the poorest regions of the world, the most serious regional conflicts arise. Simultaneously to reach the purposes of security and of development, the international community should carry out a more balanced policy.

It is necessary for the world community to work actively in overcoming distinctions and inequalities between the countries of the North and the South. In our opinion, the United Nations requires the creation of such interactive mechanisms which will remove the problems causing the poorest countries to drop out of universal development, and their participation in decision making. The countries of the South should become full participants in the decisions involving global problems.

Kyrgyzstan remains devoted to the Monterrey Consensus according to which the developed countries will increase development aid, and poor countries in their transformation will use this aid more effectively. At various authoritative forums, an understanding of the Concepts of Sustainable Economic Development and Sustainable Human Development has been reached. We completely support this. These concepts, with substantive provisions, will find reflection in our national strategy and programs. At the same time, successful realization of national programs of the various countries is directly connected with regional and international cooperation. On this joint interest, the role of the United Nations and its agencies, with a view of fast achievement of mutual understanding, coordination of mutual efforts should be considerably strengthened.

We support the proposal on drafting a National strategy of development and its adoption in 2006 and achievement by 2015 as parameters of implementation of the purposes in the field of the development, formulated in the Millennium Declarations. In our opinion, the United Nations should mobilize new resources, strengthen coordination and increase the contribution regarding decisions on problems of development.

We consider that it is time for donor countries to move from the declaration of obligations to concrete actions. In this regard the Kyrgyz Republic welcomes the decision of the European Union to allocate 0.7 percent of the GDP as an official aid of development by 2009. Besides, the Kyrgyz Republic supports the necessity of a comprehensible level of debts and acceptance of urgent and scale measures on the simplification of debt burden for developing countries.

Kyrgyzstan is a mountain country. The mountain states are characterized by remoteness, difficult accessibility, information inaccessibility, severe geo-climatic conditions, greater expenses for maintenance of life. At the same time, receiving the financial aid from the developed countries Kyrgyzstan itself is the donor on rendering eco-system services whose value yearly increases. So, for example, the Kyrgyz Republic is one of the basic repositories of glaciers and the supplier of fresh water in the region. Besides, within the International Convention on Preservation of Biological Variety, there is in Kyrgyzstan the operation of a network of biosphere territories. Kyrgyzstan emits into the atmosphere much less hotbed gases than the majority of the countries of the world, and thus brings a contribution to the preservation of an ozone cloud of the planet.

Simultaneously, to our great regret, in our territory, there are storehouses of radioactive waste—an inheritance from a military-industrial complex of the former Soviet

period. Their maintenance and the prevention of further potential ecological accidents for the entire Central Asian region are an excessive burden for Kyrgyzstan. We consider that the international community at a coordinating role of the United Nations, should concern itself more closely to such zones of high ecological risk and render sufficient financial and technical aid directed at the prevention of global and regional ecological disasters.

We also consider that for the decisions of a national scale, the United Nations should promote more actively the participation of the poor and developing countries regarding sustainable development. The presence of a big debt interferes with sustainable social and economic development of mountain territories.

In addition to wider initiatives on the maintenance of readiness for disasters and mitigation of their consequences, Kyrgyzstan supports initiatives on the creation of a worldwide early warning system on acts of nature. As a mountain country Kyrgyzstan constantly collides with regular and often repeating acts of nature—earthquakes, landslips, avalanches, flooding of cities and settlements. Our long experience on liquidation of consequences of similar disasters takes huge sums from economic and social development and thus highlights the importance of strengthening ecological security. As a first step, Kyrgyzstan suggests the use of its territory as a pilot area for the prevention and mitigation of consequences of such kind of natural disasters.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to express also support to the proposal on the establishment of a Committee of the regional organizations under the United Nations. It will allow the involvement of unused potential of the regional and sub-regional organizations in the prevention and settlement of conflicts and also other important regional problems. The regional structures having the corresponding potential and effectively acting at the present moment should play a complementary role before new threats and challenges. Kyrgyzstan supports participation in work of this Committee of such organizations, as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Organization of the Treaty on Collective Security, the Euro-Asian Economic Union and the Organization of the Central Asian Cooperation.

We also support the measures directed to an increase of efficiency of peace-making operations; in this regard we welcome the proposal of the Secretary General on the establishment of strategic reserves for activity of the United Nations on maintenance of the world and reserve potential of civil police of the United Nations.

The Kyrgyz Republic is the only state in Central Asia that participates in peace-making efforts of the United Nations, having directed military observers and staff officers in the Missions of the United Nations in Liberia, Burundi, Sierra Leone, Serbia and Montenegro (Kosovo) and Sudan. We are proud that we bring our contribution to the efforts of the United Nations to these countries and are fully determined to give support to such noble activity.

Kyrgyzstan actively supports efforts of the international community on restoration and strengthening of the world in Afghanistan and has given its territory for accommodation of forces of the Antiterrorist coalition and the Organization of the Contract about collective safety, providing measures on maintenance of safety in region.

Kyrgyzstan actively supports efforts of the international community on restoration and strengthening of the peace in Afghanistan and has given the territory for accommodation of forces of the Antiterrorist coalition

and the Organization of the Treaty on Collective security, providing measures on maintenance of security in region.

We remain devoted to the establishment of the nuclear Free Zone in the Central Asia. Now the text of the relevant Treaty is co-ordinated by five countries of region and we are glad that the depository of the Treaty will be the Kyrgyz Republic. We believe that it is testimony of high trust and a recognition of the contribution of our republic in the implementation of the initiative establishing a Nuclear-free Zone. I am firmly convinced that the establishment of a Zone free from nuclear weapons in our region will promote the strengthening of global security and regional stability. We hope to obtain corresponding support of the world community.

In conclusion Mr. Chairman, I would like to note that the world community experiences a complex period of formation of a new system of international affairs. Already, it is clear that it will be a long process. The states—members of the United Nations should affirm their readiness to achieve practical solutions to the most essential problems of our time: to struggle with poverty, famine, illnesses, to provide sustainable development. The 60th session of the General Assembly should remain with us in memory as the session of reforms. Thank you for your attention.

#### LEGISLATION TO PROHIBIT STATES FROM TAXING RETIREMENT INCOME OF NON-RESIDENTS

**HON. CHRIS CANNON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing today legislation to clarify Public Law 104-95, adopted by the Congress in 1995, prohibiting States from taxing the retirement income of nonresidents. Public Law 104-95, enacted in 1996, precludes States, other than the State in which a retiree resides, from taxing certain retirement benefits. The law defines "retirement income" as any income from specified types of qualified pension plans or from a nonqualified deferred compensation plan that meets certain payment requirements. Nonqualified deferred compensation plans are defined by reference to section 3121(v)(2)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"), which relates to employment taxes. Specifically, any income of an individual who is not a resident of the taxing State from any plan, program, or arrangement described in section 3121(v)(2)(C) is exempt from that State's income tax provided the income received from such plan is part of a series of substantially equal periodic payments made (not less frequently than annually) over the life expectancy of the recipient, or for a period of not less than 10 years. Neither the statute nor the related committee reports provide guidance as to what constitutes a substantially equal periodic payment; they merely require that the payments be made for at least 10 years.

Unfortunately, at least one State tax revenue department has taken the position that Public Law 104-95 does not preclude state taxation of nonqualified retirement benefits

paid by a partnership to its retired nonresident partners. Specifically, the State has construed the reference to section 3121(v)(2)(C) of the Code to limit the exemption to payments made only to retired employees, i.e., those individuals subjected to FICA tax, since the provision is written in the context of employment taxation. Under this view, nonqualified retirement benefits paid by a partnership to its retired partners who are not residents of the State would not be exempt from nonresident State income taxation because there is no specific reference to retired partners in P.L. 104-95, section 3121(v)(2)(C) of the Code, or subsequently issued Treasury Regulations for that section.

In addition, at least one State tax revenue department has taken the position that the periodic benefits provided under the plan fail the "substantially equal periodic payments" test if the plan provides for benefit reductions pursuant to a pre-determined formula capping total disbursements. Under a similar analysis, periodic benefits that are subject to adjustment pursuant to a plan provision providing cost-of-living adjustments could also fail to qualify as "substantially equal periodic payments." Because businesses are not permitted to pre-fund nonqualified deferred compensation benefits on a tax-favored basis, some businesses find it prudent to cap total disbursements under a pre-determined plan formula, such as a percentage of the business's overall income. This cap operates to keep retirement costs within a reasonable range sustainable by the business, in effect protecting the business from unusual demands triggered by demographic variations. Similarly, many plans provide for cost-of-living adjustments to retirement benefits. Any such adjustments made as a result of a pre-determined plan formula do not change the nature of the retirement benefit and should not cause the retirement benefits to fail to meet the "substantially equal periodic payments" test.

The application of the "substantially equal periodic payments" test is unclear when retirement benefits include components from both qualified plans (no substantially equal periodic payment requirement) and nonqualified plans. Consider a plan in which total annual payments to a retiree do not change from year to year, but the payments are required to come first from a Keogh (i.e., qualified plan) until depleted and then from the general assets of the business (i.e., nonqualified plan). Under a pre-determined plan formula, the total annual payment remains the same and is part of a series of substantially equal periodic payments. However, the sources underlying the total payment will change as the qualified plan is depleted and nonqualified payments are increased to maintain annual payments at the same level.

This legislation would clarify that States may not impose an income tax on retirement income of nonresidents received under certain nonqualified deferred compensation plans, including plans for retired partners (treated as such under applicable tax laws). This would also clarify that retired partner equivalents, that is retired principals, will be treated as retired partners for purposes of this provision. This legislation would also clarify that benefit reductions pursuant to a pre-determined formula capping total disbursements, or benefit adjustments pursuant to a plan provision pro-

viding cost-of-living adjustments are permitted, and do not cause the periodic benefits provided under the plan to fail the "substantially equal periodic payments" test. It is also my intent to clarify that the "substantially equal periodic payments" test is satisfied when payments include components from both qualified and nonqualified plans. Because this legislation merely clarifies Congressional intent with respect to current law, it would apply as of the effective date of P.L. 104-94, that is to amounts received after December 31, 1995.

These changes are intended to make it clear that, when Congress originally passed this legislation, it did not want to allow States to tax retirement income, other than the State where the retiree resides, whether the retirement payments are made to a retired employee or a retired partner. The present bill merely confirms Congressional intent to prohibit State taxation of retirement payments made to nonresidents.

#### HONORING WISCONSIN'S 2005 OUTSTANDING OLDER WORKER

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise before you today to honor this year's Outstanding Older Worker for the State of Wisconsin, Norman Gudmundson. Continuing to work at age 78, Norm clearly deserves this recognition.

Norm began violin lessons at the age of eight, and like his father before him, dreamt of being a great violinist one day. Norm had 16 years of private training, and by the time he graduated high school, he was considered one of the most accomplished violinists in the State of Illinois after winning the state competition.

Upon his graduation from high school in 1945, Norm joined the U.S. Army Infantry in the last days of World War II. Upon war's end, he was sent to Germany and served for 2 years rebuilding the war-torn country. After his military service, Norm received a full scholarship to play violin for the University of Miami, Florida's Orchestra. After college, Norm continued his career in music, playing with orchestras in Chicago, Denver, and Milwaukee.

Norm retired from the orchestra but did not give up working. Norm is a dead-on Santa Claus, so it only seemed natural to donate his time to play St. Nick at local department stores around Christmas-time.

Refusing to retire, Norm has recently worked for his own excavating business, repairing telephone lines in Colorado, inspecting cranberries for Ocean Spray, and manufacturing lawn equipment with Toro. Norm now works for Cardinal IG in Tomah, WI.

And so I stand today to honor Wisconsin's Outstanding Older Worker for this year, Norman Gudmundson, who truly is a Renaissance man. For his contribution to the arts, his love of children, and his dedication to his community and America's workforce, I commend Norm for his generous spirit and remarkable commitment to service.



## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 512, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

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**HONORING THE MARINES OF LIMA COMPANY FOR THEIR SERVICE IN IRAQ**
**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the brave Marines of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment who returned home to Columbus, Ohio this morning after deploying for ten months, eight of which they spent in Iraq.

This reserve Marine Corps infantry unit, which is composed of young men from all walks of life, left home, family, career, and college to respond with honor and courage to the call of service issued by our great nation. Lima Company served in western Iraq in Haditha, in al Anbar Province, one of the most dangerous and insurgent-infested areas of the entire country. They pursued their mission to seek out and engage insurgents in their strongholds to reduce the terrorists' ability to disrupt Iraq's new democratically elected government.

Central Ohioans could not be more proud of their service. These brave young Marines participated in operations "Matador," "New Market" and "Quick Strike," conducting house to house searches for weapons and terrorists. Lima Company engaged in direct combat with the enemy and performed with great honor and distinction fighting side by side with our active duty troops.

It is often said that freedom is not free. Nobody knows the truth of this statement better than the Marines and their families of Lima Company. In the performance of their duties, Lima Company suffered grievous casualties. 16 Marines lost their lives, and 34 Marines were wounded.

I am grateful to the Marines of Lima Company who put themselves in harm's way to make our country safer, and to make the world a better place. I urge my fellow Americans and this Congress to never forget the debt we owe these young heroes and their families. Now that they have returned, they need our help as much as ever to heal from their wounds, to reconnect with their families and resume their lives. And in the case of those families whose Marine did not return home, they need our support and prayers as they face each new day without the one they loved.

We must all work together to help these Marines and their families as they return to civilian life. To the Department of Veterans Affairs, I say give these heroes the best care possible. I ask employers to give these young Marines a chance to serve in your organizations. I urge the people of Central Ohio to help the families of the fallen. Finally to the brave Marines of Lima Company, I simply say thank you and God bless you for your service to our country.

**RECOGNIZING BOWATER'S CATAWBA OPERATIONS**
**HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Bowater's Catawba Operations, the largest coated paper manufacturing facility in North America. The plant makes paper used in magazines, flyers, inserts, and coupons, and I am proud to say that it is located in my congressional district.

Fifty years ago, when Bowater chose the site for a paper-making plant on the Catawba River in York County, South Carolina, a special session of our General Assembly was called to amend the state constitution so that Bowater, then a British firm, could purchase unlimited timberland acreage.

That plant site has proven its worth many times in the years since then. Now, Bowater's Catawba Operation has been recognized for meeting and surpassing world-class standards in manufacturing, employee programs, community outreach, and environmental stewardship.

The Catawba plant employs 1,000 associates. Most live in York, Chester, and Lancaster counties. And they are the reason that the Catawba plant won Industry Week's 2005 Best Plant competition, one of just 10 plants out of 220 nominated. They are also the reason that Catawba plant was named South Carolina's Manufacturer of the Year for 2004 by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers.

Industry Week calls the plant a "pacesetter" that will "continue to lead the way in the future."

Bowater's Catawba Operations recently undertook major capital improvements, including the construction of a \$175 million state-of-the-art kraft-pulping mill, along with a \$106 million paper machine conversion. Both were completed while the mill maintained a full 24-hour production schedule.

The plant's associates and managers not only work hard and smart, they work safely—recently reaching a significant safety milestone by working four million hours without a disabling or lost time injury.

It comes as no surprise to us in South Carolina why the Catawba plant is second to none in its class.

As the editors of Industry Week put it in honoring the Catawba plant and the nine other "Best Plants": "These plants produce different products from one another, operate different machinery, rely on a host of different improvement methods, and face different competitive challenges in their quests to excel at the jobs they do. What they share, however, is a vision of excellence by design, not by accident. They hire the right people and train them well, and they focus continually on improvement. They have leadership that encourages input from all employees and employees who take up the challenge; and they look outside their four walls to their upstream and downstream partners in their efforts to be the best."

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Bowater's Catawba Plant and its outstanding associates, and honored to call them today to the attention of the House.

**RECOGNIZING THE MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RAUL RODRIGUEZ**
**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Raul Rodriguez for his work to improve the quality of life in the U.S.-Mexico border region as he prepares to end his tenure as the Managing Director of the North American Development Bank.

The NADBank is jointly operated by the United States and Mexico, financing and developing needed environmental projects in the border region, such as water and wastewater treatment plants. Raul has guided the expanding NADBank since October of 2000.

Under Raul's leadership, the NADBank has grown dramatically. It now provides over \$703 million in financing and assistance for 89 infrastructure projects in the U.S.-Mexico border region, including technical and financial assistance projects in border communities that would not otherwise have been feasible.

The North American Development Bank is assisting on a set of projects whose total cost is estimated at over \$2.4 billion, a level of investment that may have been impossible to achieve if not for the efforts of the NADBank.

Prior to joining the NADBank, Raul was the Executive Director of the Mexican Foreign Trade Bank, and he served as Mexico's Trade Commissioner in Canada during the NAFTA negotiations. Raul also served as a professor for several years.

Thanks in large part to the contributions of Raul Rodriguez, the NADBank is more able to make a positive impact in the border region than many could have ever imagined. I thank Mr. Rodriguez today for his hard work and dedication, and I wish him the best as he continues to serve our border community.

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**HONORING ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IN LANCASTER, OHIO**
**HON. DAVID L. HOBSON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Lancaster, Ohio, for 1 celebrating its 200th anniversary as a congregation on October 16, 2005.

The history of St. Peter's began in 1804, when a traveling preacher, the Reverend Johannes Stauch, visited Lancaster. A year later, Reverend William Forster was sent to the territory by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania to preach throughout the area, most notably in Fairfield and Perry Counties. The result was the founding of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church, which is the oldest existing Lutheran congregation in the State of Ohio.

For several years, the church had no regular place of worship. A parcel of land was secured on the banks of the Old Canal, and a cornerstone for the log cabin church was laid in 1819. The congregation worshipped at this site until 1832, when a brick building was constructed as a new home for the church. And

in 1882, the present building at the corner of Broad and Mulberry Streets in Lancaster was dedicated. The current church is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Over the years, members of St. Peter's Church have dedicated themselves to their faith through their worship and involvement in the community. The congregation is involved in a variety of programs that help provide food, clothing and shelter to those in need in the region and throughout the State of Ohio, including the Mid-Ohio Food Bank and the church's "We Care Corner".

In addition, St. Peter's church has also been a part of the Fairfield Heritage Association's annual candlelight tour of churches in downtown Lancaster. The event takes place December and attracts nearly 800 people each year.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the residents of the 7th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating St. Peter's Lutheran Church for its honored history and its contributions to the religious and community life of the Lancaster area for the past 200 years.

### THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. RICHARD W. POMBO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 29, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for others purposes:

Mr. Chairman, the addition of paragraph (6) to the Endangered Species Act section 7(a) is intended to preclude agency actions from being subject to section 7(a) requirements, if those actions implement or are consistent with a conservation habitat plan or agreement incorporated in a permit issued under section 10. The issuance of a section 10 permit is itself an agency action and therefore subject to section 7(a) requirements. This new paragraph allows agency actions authorized in an approved section 10 permit to transpire without having to meet further section 7(a) requirements.

### PRESIDENT DISCUSSES WAR ON TERROR AT NATIONAL ENDOW- MENT FOR DEMOCRACY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, President Bush addressed supporters of the National Endowment for Democracy about the War on Terrorism. As he spoke at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center about our country's continued efforts to spread democracy and defeat terrorism around the globe, I was reminded of the tremendous parallels between the 40th and 43rd Presidents of the United States.

Over 20 years ago, Ronald Reagan advanced the idea of peace through strength.

Today, we are witnessing the greatest spread of freedom in the history of the world. I am grateful for President Bush's leadership and his continued commitment to turning Ronald Reagan's vision into a reality.

Please see the following copy of President Bush's speech.

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all. Thank you all. Please be seated. Thank you for the warm welcome. I'm honored once again to be with the supporters of the National Endowment for Democracy. Since the day President Ronald Reagan set out the vision for this Endowment, the world has seen the swiftest advance of democratic institutions in history. And Americans are proud to have played our role in this great story.

Our nation stood guard on tense borders; we spoke for the rights of dissidents and the hopes of exile; we aided the rise of new democracies on the ruins of tyranny. And all the cost and sacrifice of that struggle has been worth it, because, from Latin America to Europe to Asia, we've gained the peace that freedom brings.

In this new century, freedom is once again assaulted by enemies determined to roll back generations of democratic progress. Once again, we're responding to a global campaign of fear with a global campaign of freedom. And once again, we will see freedom's victory.

Vin, I want to thank you for inviting me back. And thank you for the short introduction. I appreciate Carl Gershman. I want to welcome former Congressman Dick Gephardt, who is a board member of the National Endowment for Democracy. It's good to see you, Dick. And I appreciate Chris Cox, who is the Chairman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and a board member for the National Endowment of Democracy, for being here, as well. I want to thank all the other board members.

I appreciate the Secretary of State, Condi Rice, who has joined us—alongside her, Secretary of Defense Don Rumsfeld. Thank you all for being here. I'm proud, as well, that the newly sworn-in Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, the first Marine ever to hold that position, is with us today—General Peter Pace. I thank the members of the Diplomatic Corps who are here, as well.

Recently our country observed the fourth anniversary of a great evil, and looked back on a great turning point in our history. We still remember a proud city covered in smoke and ashes, a fire across the Potomac, and passengers who spent their final moments on Earth fighting the enemy. We still remember the men who rejoiced in every death, and Americans in uniform rising to duty. And we remember the calling that came to us on that day, and continues to this hour: We will confront this mortal danger to all humanity. We will not tire, or rest, until the war on terror is won.

The images and experience of September the 11th are unique for Americans. Yet the evil of that morning has reappeared on other days, in other places—in Mombasa, and Casablanca, and Riyadh, and Jakarta, and Istanbul, and Madrid, and Beslan, and Taba, and Netanya, and Baghdad, and elsewhere. In the past few months, we've seen a new terror offensive with attacks on London, and Sharm el-Sheikh, and a deadly bombing in Bali once again. All these separate images of destruction and suffering that we see on the news can seem like random and isolated acts of madness; innocent men and women and children have died simply because they boarded the wrong train, or worked in the wrong building, or checked into the wrong hotel. Yet while the killers choose their victims indiscriminately, their attacks serve a clear and focused ideology, a set of beliefs and goals that are evil, but not insane.

Some call this evil Islamic radicalism; others, militant Jihadism; still others, Islamofascism. Whatever it's called, this ideology is very different from the religion of Islam. This form of radicalism exploits Islam to serve a violent, political vision: the establishment, by terrorism and subversion and insurgency, of a totalitarian empire that denies all political and religious freedom. These extremists distort the idea of jihad into a call for terrorist murder against Christians and Jews and Hindus—and also against Muslims from other traditions, who they regard as heretics.

Many militants are part of global, borderless terrorist organizations like al Qaeda, which spreads propaganda, and provides financing and technical assistance to local extremists, and conducts dramatic and brutal operations like September the 11th. Other militants are found in regional groups, often associated with al Qaeda—paramilitary insurgencies and separatist movements in places like Somalia, and the Philippines, and Pakistan, and Chechnya, and Kashmir, and Algeria. Still others spring up in local cells, inspired by Islamic radicalism, but not centrally directed. Islamic radicalism is more like a loose network with many branches than an army under a single command. Yet these operatives, fighting on scattered battlefields, share a similar ideology and vision for our world.

We know the vision of the radicals because they've openly stated it—in videos, and audiotapes, and letters, and declarations, and websites. First, these extremists want to end American and Western influence in the broader Middle East, because we stand for democracy and peace, and stand in the way of their ambitions. Al Qaeda's leader, Osama bin Laden, has called on Muslims to dedicate, quote, their "resources, sons and money to driving the infidels out of their lands." Their tactic to meet this goal has been consistent for a quarter-century: They hit us, and expect us to run. They want us to repeat the sad history of Beirut in 1983, and Mogadishu in 1993—only this time on a larger scale, with greater consequences.

Second, the militant network wants to use the vacuum created by an American retreat to gain control of a country, a base from which to launch attacks and conduct their war against non-radical Muslim governments. Over the past few decades, radicals have specifically targeted Egypt, and Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan, and Jordan for potential takeover. They achieved their goal, for a time, in Afghanistan. Now they've set their sights on Iraq. Bin Laden has stated: "The whole world is watching this war and the two adversaries. It's either victory and glory, or misery and humiliation." The terrorists regard Iraq as the central front in their war against humanity. And we must recognize Iraq as the central front in our war on terror.

Third, the militants believe that controlling one country will rally the Muslim masses, enabling them to overthrow all moderate governments in the region, and establish a radical Islamic empire that spans from Spain to Indonesia. With greater economic and military and political power, the terrorists would be able to advance their stated agenda: to develop weapons of mass destruction, to destroy Israel, to intimidate Europe, to assault the American people, and to blackmail our government into isolation.

Some might be tempted to dismiss these goals as fanatical or extreme. Well, they are fanatical and extreme—and they should not be dismissed. Our enemy is utterly committed. As Zarqawi has vowed, "We will either achieve victory over the human race or

we will pass to the eternal life." And the civilized world knows very well that other fanatics in history, from Hitler to Stalin to Pol Pot, consumed whole nations in war and genocide before leaving the stage of history. Evil men, obsessed with ambition and unburdened by conscience, must be taken very seriously—and we must stop them before their crimes can multiply.

Defeating the militant network is difficult, because it thrives, like a parasite, on the suffering and frustration of others. The radicals exploit local conflicts to build a culture of victimization, in which someone else is always to blame and violence is always the solution. They exploit resentful and disillusioned young men and women, recruiting them through radical mosques as the pawns of terror. And they exploit modern technology to multiply their destructive power. Instead of attending faraway training camps, recruits can now access online training libraries to learn how to build a roadside bomb, or fire a rocket-propelled grenade—and this further spreads the threat of violence, even within peaceful democratic societies.

The influence of Islamic radicalism is also magnified by helpers and enablers. They have been sheltered by authoritarian regimes, allies of convenience like Syria and Iran, that share the goal of hurting America and moderate Muslim governments, and use terrorist propaganda to blame their own failures on the West and America, and on the Jews. These radicals depend on front operations, such as corrupted charities, which direct money to terrorist activity. They're strengthened by those who aggressively fund the spread of radical, intolerant versions of Islam in unstable parts of the world. The militants are aided, as well, by elements of the Arab news media that incite hatred and anti-Semitism, that feed conspiracy theories and speak of a so-called American "war on Islam"—with seldom a word about American action to protect Muslims in Afghanistan, and Bosnia, Somalia, Kosovo, Kuwait, and Iraq.

Some have also argued that extremism has been strengthened by the actions of our coalition in Iraq, claiming that our presence in that country has somehow caused or triggered the rage of radicals. I would remind them that we were not in Iraq on September the 11th, 2001—and al Qaeda attacked us anyway. The hatred of the radicals existed before Iraq was an issue, and it will exist after Iraq is no longer an excuse. The government of Russia did not support Operation Iraqi Freedom, and yet the militants killed more than 180 Russian schoolchildren in Beslan.

Over the years these extremists have used a litany of excuses for violence—the Israeli presence on the West Bank, or the U.S. military presence in Saudi Arabia, or the defeat of the Taliban, or the Crusades of a thousand years ago. In fact, we're not facing a set of grievances that can be soothed and addressed. We're facing a radical ideology with inalterable objectives: to enslave whole nations and intimidate the world. No act of ours invited the rage of the killers—and no concession, bribe, or act of appeasement would change or limit their plans for murder.

On the contrary: They target nations whose behavior they believe they can change through violence. Against such an enemy, there is only one effective response: We will never back down, never give in, and never accept anything less than complete victory.

The murderous ideology of the Islamic radicals is the great challenge of our new century. Yet, in many ways, this fight resembles the struggle against communism in the last century. Like the ideology of communism, Islamic radicalism is elitist, led by

a self-appointed vanguard that presumes to speak for the Muslim masses. Bin Laden says his own role is to tell Muslims, quote, "what is good for them and what is not." And what this man who grew up in wealth and privilege considers good for poor Muslims is that they become killers and suicide bombers. He assures them that his—that this is the road to paradise—though he never offers to go along for the ride.

Like the ideology of communism, our new enemy teaches that innocent individuals can be sacrificed to serve a political vision. And this explains their cold-blooded contempt for human life. We've seen it in the murders of Daniel Pearl, Nicholas Berg, and Margaret Hassan, and many others. In a courtroom in the Netherlands, the killer of Theo Van Gogh turned to the victim's grieving mother and said, "I do not feel your pain—because I believe you are an infidel." And in spite of this veneer of religious rhetoric, most of the victims claimed by the militants are fellow Muslims.

When 25 Iraqi children are killed in a bombing, or Iraqi teachers are executed at their school, or hospital workers are killed caring for the wounded, this is murder, pure and simple—the total rejection of justice and honor and morality and religion. These militants are not just the enemies of America, or the enemies of Iraq, they are the enemies of Islam and the enemies of humanity. We have seen this kind of shameless cruelty before, in the heartless zealotry that led to the gulags, and the Cultural Revolution, and the killing fields.

Like the ideology of communism, our new enemy pursues totalitarian aims. Its leaders pretend to be an aggrieved party, representing the powerless against imperial enemies. In truth they have endless ambitions of imperial domination, and they wish to make everyone powerless except themselves. Under their rule, they have banned books, and desecrated historical monuments, and brutalized women. They seek to end dissent in every form, and to control every aspect of life, and to rule the soul, itself. While promising a future of justice and holiness, the terrorists are preparing for a future of oppression and misery.

Like the ideology of communism, our new enemy is dismissive of free peoples, claiming that men and women who live in liberty are weak and decadent. Zarqawi has said that Americans are, quote, "the most cowardly of God's creatures." But let's be clear: It is cowardice that seeks to kill children and the elderly with car bombs, and cuts the throat of a bound captive, and targets worshipers leaving a mosque. It is courage that liberated more than 50 million people. It is courage that keeps an untiring vigil against the enemies of a rising\* \* \*

And Islamic radicalism, like the ideology of communism, contains inherent contradictions that doom it to failure. By fearing freedom—by distrusting human creativity, and punishing change, and limiting the contributions of half the population—this ideology undermines the very qualities that make human progress possible, and human societies successful. The only thing modern about the militants' vision is the weapons they want to use against us. The rest of their grim vision is defined by a warped image of the past—a declaration of war on the idea of progress, itself. And whatever lies ahead in the war against this ideology, the outcome is not in doubt: Those who despise freedom and progress have condemned themselves to isolation, decline, and collapse. Because free peoples believe in the future, free peoples will own the future.

We didn't ask for this global struggle, but we're answering history's call with confidence, and a comprehensive strategy. De-

feating a broad and adaptive network requires patience, constant pressure, and strong partners in Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, Asia and beyond. Working with these partners, we're disrupting militant conspiracies, destroying their ability to make war, and working to give millions in a troubled region of the world a hopeful alternative to resentment and violence.

First, we're determined to prevent the attacks of terrorist networks before they occur. We're reorganizing our government to give this nation a broad and coordinated homeland defense. We're reforming our intelligence agencies for the incredibly difficult task of tracking enemy activity, based on information that often comes in small fragments from widely scattered sources, here and abroad. We're acting, along with the governments from many countries, to destroy the terrorist networks and incapacitate their leaders. Together, we've killed or captured nearly all of those directly responsible for the September the 11th attacks; as well as some of bin Laden's most senior deputies; al Qaeda managers and operatives in more than 24 countries; the mastermind of the USS Cole bombing, who was chief of al Qaeda operations in the Persian Gulf; the mastermind of the Jakarta and the first Bali bombings; a senior Zarqawi terrorist planner, who was planning attacks in Turkey; and many of al Qaeda's senior leaders in Saudi Arabia.

Overall, the United States and our partners have disrupted at least ten serious al Qaeda terrorist plots since September the 11th, including three al Qaeda plots to attack inside the United States. We've stopped at least five more al Qaeda efforts to case targets in the United States, or infiltrate operatives into our country. Because of this steady progress, the enemy is wounded—but the enemy is still capable of global operations. Our commitment is clear: We will not relent until the organized international terrorist networks are exposed and broken, and their leaders held to account for their acts of murder.

Second, we're determined to deny weapons of mass destruction to outlaw regimes, and to their terrorist allies who would use them without hesitation. The United States, working with Great Britain, Pakistan, and other nations, has exposed and disrupted a major black-market operation in nuclear technology led by A.Q. Khan. Libya has abandoned its chemical and nuclear weapons programs, as well as long-range ballistic missiles. And in the last year, America and our partners in the Proliferation Security Initiative have stopped more than a dozen shipments of suspected weapons technology, including equipment for Iran's ballistic missile program.

This progress has reduced the danger to free nations, but has not removed it. Evil men who want to use horrendous weapons against us are working in deadly earnest to gain them. And we're working urgently to keep weapons of mass destruction out of their hands.

Third, we're determined to deny radical groups the support and sanctuary of outlaw regimes. State sponsors like Syria and Iran have a long history of collaboration with terrorists, and they deserve no patience from the victims of terror. The United States makes no distinction between those who commit acts of terror and those who support and harbor them, because they're equally as guilty of murder. Any government that chooses to be an ally of terror has also chosen to be an enemy of civilization. And the civilized world must hold those regimes to account.

Fourth, we're determined to deny the militants control of any nation, which they

would use as a home base and a launching pad for terror. For this reason, we're fighting beside our Afghan partners against remnants of the Taliban and their al Qaeda allies. For this reason, we're working with President Musharraf to oppose and isolate the militants in Pakistan. And for this reason, we're fighting the regime remnants and terrorists in Iraq. The terrorist goal is to overthrow a rising democracy, claim a strategic country as a haven for terror, destabilize the Middle East, and strike America and other free nations with ever-increasing violence. Our goal is to defeat the terrorists and their allies at the heart of their power—and so we will defeat the enemy in Iraq.

Our coalition, along with our Iraqi allies, is moving forward with a comprehensive, specific military plan. Area by area, city by city, we're conducting offensive operations to clear out enemy forces, and leaving behind Iraqi units to prevent the enemy from returning. Within these areas, we're working for tangible improvements in the lives of Iraqi citizens. And we're aiding the rise of an elected government that unites the Iraqi people against extremism and violence. This work involves great risk for Iraqis, and for Americans and coalition forces. Wars are not won without sacrifice—and this war will require more sacrifice, more time, and more resolve.

The terrorists are as brutal an enemy as we've ever faced. They're unconstrained by any notion of our common humanity, or by the rules of warfare. No one should underestimate the difficulties ahead, nor should they overlook the advantages we bring to this fight.

Some observers look at the job ahead and adopt a self-defeating pessimism. It is not justified. With every random bombing and with every funeral of a child, it becomes more clear that the extremists are not patriots, or resistance fighters—they are murderers at war with the Iraqi people, themselves.

In contrast, the elected leaders of Iraq are proving to be strong and steadfast. By any standard or precedent of history, Iraq has made incredible political progress—from tyranny, to liberation, to national elections, to the writing of a constitution, in the space of two-and-a-half years. With our help, the Iraqi military is gaining new capabilities and new confidence with every passing month. At the time of our Fallujah operations 11 months ago, there were only a few Iraqi army battalions in combat. Today there are more than 80 Iraqi army battalions fighting the insurgency alongside our forces. Progress isn't easy, but it is steady. And no fair-minded person should ignore, deny, or dismiss the achievements of the Iraqi people.

Some observers question the durability of democracy in Iraq. They underestimate the power and appeal of freedom. We've heard it suggested that Iraq's democracy must be on shaky ground because Iraqis are arguing with each other. But that's the essence of democracy: making your case, debating with those who you disagree—who disagree, building consensus by persuasion, and answering to the will of the people. We've heard it said that the Shia, Sunnis and Kurds of Iraq are too divided to form a lasting democracy. In fact, democratic federalism is the best hope for unifying a diverse population, because a federal constitutional system respects the rights and religious traditions of all citizens, while giving all minorities, including the Sunnis, a stake and a voice in the future of their country. It is true that the seeds of freedom have only recently been planted in Iraq—but democracy, when it grows, is not a fragile flower; it is a healthy, sturdy tree.

As Americans, we believe that people everywhere—everywhere—prefer freedom to

slavery, and that liberty, once chosen, improves the lives of all. And so we're confident, as our coalition and the Iraqi people each do their part, Iraqi democracy will succeed.

Some observers also claim that America would be better off by cutting our losses and leaving Iraq now. This is a dangerous illusion, refuted with a simple question: Would the United States and other free nations be more safe, or less safe, with Zarqawi and bin Laden in control of Iraq, its people, and its resources? Having removed a dictator who hated free peoples, we will not stand by as a new set of killers, dedicated to the destruction of our own country, seizes control of Iraq by violence.

There's always a temptation, in the middle of a long struggle, to seek the quiet life, to escape the duties and problems of the world, and to hope the enemy grows weary of fanaticism and tired of murder. This would be a pleasant world, but it's not the world we live in. The enemy is never tired, never sated, never content with yesterday's brutality. This enemy considers every retreat of the civilized world as an invitation to greater violence. In Iraq, there is no peace without victory. We will keep our nerve and we will win that victory.

The fifth element of our strategy in the war on terror is to deny the militants future recruits by replacing hatred and resentment with democracy and hope across the broader Middle East. This is a difficult and long-term project, yet there's no alternative to it. Our future and the future of that region are linked. If the broader Middle East is left to grow in bitterness, if countries remain in misery, while radicals stir the resentments of millions, then that part of the world will be a source of endless conflict and mounting danger, and for our generation and the next. If the peoples of that region are permitted to choose their own destiny, and advance by their own energy and by their participation as free men and women, then the extremists will be marginalized, and the flow of violent radicalism to the rest of the world will slow, and eventually end. By standing for the hope and freedom of others, we make our own freedom more secure.

America is making this stand in practical ways. We're encouraging our friends in the Middle East, including Egypt and Saudi Arabia, to take the path of reform, to strengthen their own societies in the fight against terror by respecting the rights and choices of their own people. We're standing with dissidents and exiles against oppressive regimes, because we know that the dissidents of today will be the democratic leaders of tomorrow. We're making our case through public diplomacy, stating clearly and confidently our belief in self-determination, and the rule of law, and religious freedom, and equal rights for women, beliefs that are right and true in every land, and in every culture.

As we do our part to confront radicalism, we know that the most vital work will be done within the Islamic world, itself. And this work has begun. Many Muslim scholars have already publicly condemned terrorism, often citing Chapter 5, Verse 32 of the Koran, which states that killing an innocent human being is like killing all humanity, and saving the life of one person is like saving all of humanity. After the attacks in London on July the 7th, an imam in the United Arab Emirates declared, "Whoever does such a thing is not a Muslim, nor a religious person." The time has come for all responsible Islamic leaders to join in denouncing an ideology that exploits Islam for political ends, and defiles a noble faith.

Many people of the Muslim faith are proving their commitment at great personal risk. Everywhere we have engaged the fight

against extremism, Muslim allies have stood up and joined the fight, becoming partners in a vital cause. Afghan troops are in combat against Taliban remnants. Iraqi soldiers are sacrificing to defeat al Qaeda in their own country. These brave citizens know the stakes—the survival of their own liberty, the future of their own region, the justice and humanity of their own tradition—and that the United States of America is proud to stand beside them.

With the rise of a deadly enemy and the unfolding of a global ideological struggle, our time in history will be remembered for new challenges and unprecedented dangers. And yet the fight we have joined is also the current expression of an ancient struggle between those who put their faith in dictators and those who put their faith in the people. Throughout history, tyrants and would-be tyrants have always claimed that murder is justified to serve their grand vision—and they end up alienating decent people across the globe. Tyrants and would-be tyrants have always claimed that regimented societies are strong and pure—until those societies collapse in corruption and decay. Tyrants and would-be tyrants have always claimed that free men and women are weak and decadent—until the day that free men and women defeat them.

We don't know the course of our own struggle—the course our own struggle will take—or the sacrifices that might lie ahead. We do know, however, that the defense of freedom is worth our sacrifice. We do know the love of freedom is the mightiest force of history. And we do know the cause of freedom will once again prevail.

May God bless you.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM M.  
RICKMAN

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to remember and honor the life of William M. Rickman. The embodiment of the American Dream, Bill's life was a rags-to-riches story straight out of the pages of a Horatio Alger novel. He was an avid horseman who loved thoroughbred racing and worked to keep the sport alive in my home state of Delaware.

Bill Rickman was born July 9, 1921 in St. Charles, Virginia. During World War II, he served in the U.S Army and was stationed in Italy. In August of 1983, Bill partnered with William G. Christmas to purchase Delaware Park racetrack, which had been closed at the time due to growing competition from other racetracks in the area. The following spring saw the reopening of Delaware Park, which has been an integral part of the Delaware economy ever since.

In addition to being remembered as a savvy businessman, Bill will always be known as someone who loved horses, racing, and all of the people who worked at his track. He took great pride in both owning and breeding his horses. He owned over 100 horses, as well as two horse-training facilities in Maryland.

Bill considered the people who worked at Delaware Park as his family, and will be remembered for his kindness and generosity. He had a wonderful sense of humor, joking around with his entire staff. His good-natured manner will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, our thoughts and prayers are with Bill's friends and family as they remember the loss of such a great man. His contributions to Delaware will live on, as will his memory.

#### HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

### HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, which commemorates the numerous contributions that Latinos make to our country.

I am proud, honored and privileged to represent California's 53rd District in Congress. The district's rich diversity embodies the vibrant cultural fabric of our country.

During this month of celebration, I would like to recognize the efforts of some ordinary individuals who are doing extraordinary things in San Diego.

GUS CHAVEZ

For thirty years, Gus Chavez helped make the dream of a college degree possible for countless students. Chavez is widely recognized as the heart and soul of the Education Opportunity Program (EOP) at San Diego State University. He transformed a pilot program to attract low-income students into one of the most successful programs in the state's history.

Chavez turned the department into a comprehensive admissions outreach and retention program. He expanded services to include pre-collegiate recruiting and pre-admission advising, academic orientation, tutoring, skills development and test preparation, summer bridge programs for freshmen and transfer students, career counseling and grants.

At his retirement words like "activist" "leader" "mentor" and "advocate", easily rolled off tongues. Indeed, many alumni cite Chavez as the person who had the most impact on their educations.

ALBERTO R. CORTÉS

For nearly 18 years, Alberto Cortés has been dedicated to educating people of color about HIV and AIDS. He has worked as a bilingual information specialist and health educator for the San Diego AIDS Project and volunteered for the San Diego AIDS Information Line. Cortés has also been active with the Council of Community Clinics where he helped build HIV awareness and counseled individuals.

Presently, Cortés serves as executive director of Mama's Kitchen, a nonprofit organization that prepares and delivers food to people affected by AIDS. Last year, Mama's Kitchen provided more than 316,000 meals to community members in need.

This year, Cortés was one of five San Diegans honored as a local hero as part of the Union Bank of California and KPBS Hispanic Heritage Month Local Heroes Awards. Award-winners are chosen for demonstrating a high level of commitment and community participation.

JOSE MONDRAGON

While some high school students view summer vacation as a time to relax, this 17-year-old used it to coordinate a community meeting with city council members.

Working with Barrios Unidos Hoy Organizados (BUHO), Mondragon was a key organizer for a public meeting that brought together 300 community residents to address issues of concern such as affordable housing and adequate street lighting. Those who worked with him on the community meeting describe Mondragon as "a true role model."

Mondragon is currently Commissioner of Community Service for the Associated Student Body at San Diego High School. Despite all of his extracurricular activities, Jose has maintained a 3.81 GPA and hopes to attend Stanford University after high school.

I hope you, Mr. Speaker, and all of my colleagues will join me in honoring these extraordinary individuals and their accomplishments for the Latino community.

#### COMMEMORATING THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF KKLA-FM

### HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to 99.5 KKLA-FM, Los Angeles, California's leading Christian-teaching radio station, as it celebrates 20 years of community-oriented broadcasting.

And what an amazing twenty years it has been. From its humble beginnings in a small studio in Hollywood to the multimedia powerhouse it is today, KKLA-FM has always striven to engage Southern California listeners with thought-provoking discussions and family friendly programming. In an age when our media increasingly focuses on violent and offensive material, KKLA-FM has consistently remained committed to providing quality material for listeners of all ages.

Since October 15, 1985, KKLA-FM's first day on the air, the station has been dedicated to its mission of beaming the Lord's word and teachings to Southern California. But it wasn't until 1986, with the debut of "Live from LA," that the station moved to the national forefront as the voice of Southern California's Christian community. Today, KKLA-FM is unquestionably the leader of Christian-themed radio in Southern California.

KKLA-FM's success was twenty years in the making. It was the first Los Angeles radio station and second in the nation to stream their programming on the Internet. And the station was quick to develop other radio outlets, including News/Talk 870 KRLA-AM, 95.9 KFSH-FM (The Fish), News/Talk 590 KTIE-AM and 1190 KXMX-AM. The development of these technologies has helped to grow KKLA-FM's listener base and spread its message of peace, tolerance, and love to listeners around the world.

Much of KKLA-FM's accomplishments can be attributed to the dedication and passion of its owner, Salem Communications Corporation, the leading U.S. radio broadcaster focused on Christian and family themes programming. The company will soon own 106 radio stations, including 67 stations in 24 of the top 25 markets. In addition to its radio properties, Salem owns Salem Radio Network, which syndicates talk, news and music pro-

gramming to over 1,900 affiliated radio stations; Salem Web Network, the leading Internet provider of Christian content and online streaming; and Salem Publishing, a leading publisher of Christian themed magazines.

I congratulate all the listeners and employees of KKLA-FM, who should be extremely proud of the station they have helped to build. I ask this Congress to join me in wishing the KKLA-FM family a happy 20th anniversary.

#### AZERBAIJAN

### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan is an important strategic ally for the United States. The Country is located in a region that can produce and transport energy products to the West. As well as provide military and intelligence capabilities to the United States.

Azerbaijan is an emerging major non-OPEC oil producer and transit country (i.e. Baku-Ceyhan pipeline), which will supply 1.6 million barrels a day after being operational December 2005. This will stabilize the other energy producing countries (oil and gas) in the region and their ability to get their product to the marketplace without the dependency of Russia or Iran.

Azerbaijan is a front line positioned state for military and intelligence access to Iran. This will act as a stabilizing effect for the region and fight off the aggressive position of Iran. It will also work against terrorist activities spread by fundamental terrorist who have the support of Iran.

Azerbaijan is the first Muslim state to provide troops to the U.S. backed coalitions in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kosovo. To date, they are the only Shiite Muslim state to provide troops.

Azerbaijan is in the vanguard of the emerging democracies from the former Soviet Union. Azerbaijan has parliamentary elections scheduled November 6, 2005, and is moving forward with international support to assure free and fair elections. Azerbaijan has allowed opposition parties the right to organize, protest, and access public television.

Azerbaijan maintains excellent relations with the State of Israel, both, diplomatically and economically including providing crude oil.

Azerbaijan is a strong strategic partner with the United States and is cooperating in United States activities regarding Caspian regional security overseeing Iran (e.g., Caspian Guards program, radar system, fly-over rights and refueling capacity).

Azerbaijan is a strategic asset given its presence as a strong United States-Israel ally next to Iran. Azerbaijan welcomes trade with Israel and stronger ties between the two countries.

Iran has threatened Azerbaijan due to cooperation with Israel and the United States Iran continues to inform Azerbaijan that their strong relations with the United States and Israel will not be beneficial, as Iran is their neighbor.

The Iran military enters Azerbaijan airspace weekly and Iran has made claims on Azerbaijan's offshore oil and gas exploration.

Iran has attempted to spread Madrassas schools in Azerbaijan and Azerbaijan has resisted.

Iran pressures Azerbaijan to abolish visas between the two countries, which would lead to less control and more Iranians infiltration into Azerbaijan. Azerbaijan is resisting this effort.

Occupied Azerbaijan (NK Region) is on the Iranian border, where alleged terrorist camps, narcotic trafficking and weapons trading goes on. Since Armenia has occupied this region of Azerbaijan, almost 16 percent of the total country, this activity has existed with the support of Iran. Azerbaijan is defenseless in trying to stop this activity, as long as Armenia occupies this region.

#### RECOGNIZING THE EAST TEXANS AGAINST LAWSUIT ABUSE

**HON. LOUIE GOHMERT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Texas' 1st Congressional District, I would like to recognize the efforts of the 3,000 members of the East Texans Against Lawsuit Abuse organization and the Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse in promoting Texas' fourth Lawsuit Abuse Awareness Week from October 3–7, 2005.

East Texans Against Lawsuit Abuse (ETALA) is a respected and effective organization that works to educate consumers about the human and financial costs associated with frivolous lawsuits. This organization has led successful efforts to reform our states medical malpractice system, reduce the number of frivolous lawsuits in Texas, ensure that Texans who are truly injured have access to our court system and educate Texans about how to become wise legal consumers.

ETALA is recognized locally for their efforts to encourage personal responsibility among local school children. For the second year, they are sponsoring a personal responsibility essay-writing contest among local sixth and seventh graders. What is most interesting and encouraging is that our children seem to understand this basic concept that has escaped so many adults.

We support ETALA in their efforts in support of civil justice reform and wish to thank their many supporters, board members and staff in their efforts. Through the courage and dedication of these individuals, what was once only a nice idea, has now become a reality. It has been my pleasure to work with ETALA in the past, and I look forward to working with them in the future.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HURRICANE DISASTER MORTGAGE MORATORIUM ACT OF 2005

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce The Hurricane Disaster Mortgage Moratorium Act of 2005, which would provide a 6-month moratorium on mortgage payments owed by residential and commercial property owners who reside in the disaster areas of

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. This bill would provide a temporary refuge from payment for those individuals and entities who are unable to make their mortgage payment obligations.

Mr. Speaker, as we know, the devastation wreaked by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita was of colossal proportion. The ensuing fallout of lost jobs, destroyed homes and shattered lives is equally devastating.

Needless to say, the figures that have begun to be compiled in the aftermath of the storm are staggering. Analysts with the National Association of Realtors are projecting that at least 200,000 homes in the Gulf Coast region have been destroyed or will have to be demolished. The U.S. Department of Commerce has estimated that uninsured losses could easily exceed \$100 billion. Sadly, up to a million Americans were displaced by the storms and many are still living in temporary shelters.

The Department of Labor job figures released today show that unemployment is up to 5.1 percent for September, up from a 4.9 percent pre-Katrina and Rita level and much higher than the 4.0 percent level we experienced during the 1990s. According to the Joint Economic Committee Democratic staff, the unemployment rate would in fact be 9.0 percent if the figure included those who are marginally attached to the labor force and those who are forced to work part-time because of the weak economy. The Houston Chronicle on October 6, 2005 reported that as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, at least 363,000 people have lost their jobs. These dismal numbers are likely to remain constant in the short-term as our nation rebuilds this region.

In fact, most of those unemployed as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita are expected to be out of work at least 6–9 months and we should only anticipate the indicators to increase. As we know, just this week we heard Mayor Ray Nagin of New Orleans inform that he has to let go of 3,000 municipal employees because the City cannot afford to pay them. This unfortunate scenario will surely be repeated to some extent throughout the region as municipal and state coffers dwindle from depleted revenue bases.

Whereas the number of job losses for the month of September is surprisingly only 35,000, the Department of Labor reported that last week, it received an additional 74,000 hurricane-related unemployment claims. In fact, nearly one in every five unemployed people—1.5 million Americans have been jobless for more than 26 weeks, the maximum number of weeks for receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits and the Hurricanes will only exacerbate these passive numbers.

The CBO predicts that the Hurricanes could actually cut job growth by between 280,000 and 400,000 jobs. Although it may sound obvious, Americans who have lost everything in a hurricane, who are not working and have little prospects of working in the near future cannot afford to pay their mortgages. This bill would provide them with a reprieve from their mortgage payments. Also, as it does not mandate forgiveness of this debt, this bill reflects the shared burden that our Nation will have to shoulder temporarily during this time of rebuilding.

Mr. Speaker, behind these figures are thousands of home and business owners whose entire livelihoods have been destroyed and who now face the prospect that the properties

they have worked a lifetime to purchase could be taken from them when they fall behind in their mortgages. This bill provides a temporary sanctuary from payment and stops the clock for any default or foreclosure proceedings and negative credit reporting.

Needless to say the economic effects of the Hurricanes are being felt in painful increments nationwide. However, for the Americans forced out of their homes by the Hurricanes, the economic effects are not coming in the form of a trickle, but a deluge.

The Hurricane Disaster Mortgage Moratorium Act of 2005 will ensure that during the moratorium, those Gulf Coast residents who cannot afford to pay their mortgages will not lose their homes or suffer the negative attendant consequences from non-payment. Let's not make these Americans suffer needlessly by facing the prospect of losing their homes twice. I urge my colleagues to support this effort.

#### ON THE 2ND PLACE FINISH OF THE EL PASO HIGH HIGH-Q TEAM AT THE NATIONAL ACADEMIC CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, on June 13, 2005 a group of students from historic El Paso High School in my district of El Paso, Texas, after months of grueling preparation and a hard-fought season, finished second at the National Academic Championship in Chicago.

I congratulate the following El Paso High Tigers for their hard work and dedication: Blain Baurngard, Trevor Vargas, Alex Neuman, Robert Heyman, Emil Michal, and their coach, named Coach of the Year by the National Academic Championship, Gerard Neuman.

The El Paso High School High-Q Team made it to the final round with a combination of intelligence, teamwork and self-discipline. The team demonstrated the ability to come from behind and showed maturity beyond their years.

Mr. Speaker, on June 13, 2005 the El Paso High Tigers gave us a preview of the excellence we can expect from our city's young generations and showed El Paso is home to some of the best and brightest our Nation has to offer. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the El Paso High-Q team on their second place finish at the National Academic Championship.

#### HONORING VICTOR AND MAE LOBUE

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two very special people, Victor and Mae LoBue, who are celebrating seventy-five years of marriage on September 10, 2005.

Victor LoBue and Mae DiSalvo were both born in 1910 in San Jose, in a neighborhood of Italian-American immigrants called "Little



Orchard" near the Sacred Heart Church. Both of their families were in the ranching and canning business. Vic and Mae each have three siblings, who all reside in San Jose, and Mae survives her late sister, Dolly.

Vic and Mae have been close since childhood when they met in elementary school. The nuns at school were constantly busy trying to interfere in the couple's endless chase, but to no avail! Vic would chase Mae, and when stopped, Mae would in turn chase Vic.

The couple married on September 10, 1930, at Sacred Heart Church in San Jose when Vic was twenty and Mae was nineteen. They settled into a home on Willow Street, near their cherry orchards, where Vic worked in the family business.

In 1966, when Vic became a partner in the Indian Wells Country Club, home of the "Bob Hope Classic Golf Tournament", Vic and Mae moved to Southern California. The couple has homes in Carmel Valley Ranch Country Club and Indian Wells Country Club. They have also maintained a long-time membership to The Thunderbird Club in Rancho Mirage.

Vic and Mae have one child, Victor, Jr. Victor, Jr. and his wife, Jeannie, lived in Gilroy for many years but moved to Indian Wells, California in 1990.

Vic has generously contributed to the Boys and Girls Clubs of San Jose throughout his life. He, along with his brother, Salvador, donated a room at Santa Clara University. Vic was an active member of the Jaycees, the San Jose Chamber of Commerce and the Santa Clara County Horseman's Association. He was also a member of the Sheriff's Posse.

Today, Vic and Mae divide their time between San Jose and Southern California. They have lived a long, healthy and happy life.

Congratulations to Vic and Mae LoBue on the occasion of their seventy-fifth wedding anniversary. Their marriage is a testament to happiness, commitment and fulfillment: What began as a childhood game of chase has become a lifetime of love.

#### HONORING JERRY L. REPPERT ON BEING NAMED THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

#### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jerry L. Reppert, who recently was appointed as president of the National Newspaper Association.

The National Newspaper Association, created in 1885, represents owners, publishers and editors of America's community newspapers and is the largest newspaper association in the United States, currently having more than 3,200 members. As President of the NNA, Mr. Reppert will be responsible for protecting, promoting and enhancing America's community newspapers.

Prior to election as President, Mr. Reppert held several other positions within NNA, including Vice President, State Chairman, Regional Director and Government Affairs Director. In addition, Mr. Reppert has made important contributions to the newspaper publishing business in Southern Illinois, having served as

president of the Southern Illinois Editorial Association and the Illinois Press Association, where he played a pivotal role in establishing the Illinois Press Foundation, the fund-raising arm of the Illinois Press Association. He continues to serve as the foundation's President to this day.

Jerry L. Reppert first began his career in managing newspapers by becoming editor of the Gazette-Democrat, a community newspaper run by his family, based in Anna, Illinois. Mr. Reppert greatly expanded the small, weekly newspaper into Reppert Publications, which published weekly newspapers throughout Southern Illinois, including the Cairo Citizen in Cairo, the Navigator-Journal and Prairie Post in Grayville and Albion, the Tri-County Record in Dongola. Reppert Publications also published numerous specialty publications, several of which have received honors by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and Illinois Governor's Conference on Tourism.

In addition to his pursuits in publishing, Mr. Reppert has also been successful in many other enterprises. He is a founder of Anna-Jonesboro Cable TV and constructed a cable television system for it. In 1971 he opened his own furniture company: Reppert Office Furniture. He also served 20 years in the United States Navy Reserve and attained the rank of lieutenant commander.

Mr. Reppert and his wife, Dianne, have two daughters and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of congratulations to Mr. Jerry Reppert for his election to lead the National Newspaper Association and offer our best wishes during his tenure as President.

#### CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL FOR RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, together with my colleagues Rep. TOM LANTOS and MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, I am introducing a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Rabbi Arthur Schneier, in recognition of his pioneering role in promoting religious freedom and human rights throughout the world, for close to half a century.

A holocaust survivor, and the Founder and President of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, Rabbi Schneier has devoted his life to overcoming the forces of hatred and intolerance.

He has been a pioneer in bringing together religious leaders to address ethnic or religious conflicts. For example, in Bosnia in 1997, he convened government and religious leaders to promote healing and conciliation between Orthodox, Muslim and Jewish communities. In the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia he worked with the Orthodox Patriarch and the Turkish Government to hold the Peace and Tolerance Conference in 1994 and address religious and ethnic tensions in that area. In the former Yugoslavia, he mobilized religious leaders to halt the bloodshed of the early 1990s, holding the Religious Summit on the Former Yugoslavia and the Conflict Resolution Conference to build support and consensus among religious leaders of different faiths.

Since the early 1980s, he has led delegations of religious leaders to China to open a dialogue on religious freedom.

Born in Vienna, Austria, in 1930, Rabbi Schneier lived under Nazi occupation in Budapest during World War II and came to the United States in 1947. He has been the Spiritual Leader of the Park East Synagogue in New York City since 1962.

I hope my colleagues will join us in honoring this distinguished pioneer of religious freedom with a Congressional Gold Medal.

#### THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3824. This legislation seeks to undermine one of the most successful and visionary environmental policies, the Endangered Species Act. For 32 years, the Endangered Species Act has been a safety net for wildlife, plants, and fish that are on the brink of extinction.

Since its enactment in 1973, the Endangered Species Act has prevented the extinction of hundreds of species. In fact, 99 percent of the species listed are still with us today, and more than two-thirds of all currently listed species are improving.

Minnesotans have witnessed the success of this Act first hand. In Minnesota, the bald eagle population grew from a dwindling 380 eagles in 1981 to more than 1,400 eagles today. This is more than double the recovery goal of 600 eagles. We have seen the gray wolf population grow from 300 in 1975 to 3,020 in 2004. Again, that is more than double the recovery goal of 1,400 wolves. Minnesota is also home to the dwarf trout lily, which is found nowhere else in the world.

In April 2005, many of my constituents showed their support for endangered species during Aveda Corporation's Earth Month. In Aveda salons and stores across the country, more than 170,000 people signed petitions asking for a strong, fully funded Endangered Species Act. These petitions were delivered to the steps of the Capitol in July. The message is clear. Americans want to protect endangered species for future generations.

Unfortunately, H.R. 3824 makes it harder to protect threatened and endangered species. It repeals one of the most important parts of the act—critical habitat protection. Habitat destruction is the primary reason many animals end up on the Endangered Species List. Species with designated critical habitats recover at twice the rate of endangered species without critical habitat. Yet, this bill provides no alternative to protect the places where vulnerable species live.

This bill also creates a new corporate welfare entitlement for developers. Under this bill,

the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would have only 180 days to review proposed developments and their impact on endangered species. If an assessment cannot be reached within this time frame, the project is allowed to proceed. If it is determined that endangered species would be harmed by the project, the Federal Government must pay the landowner the value of the proposed development. This would encourage speculative development schemes aimed at harming endangered species in order to receive windfall payments from the government. A frenzy of fraud and abuse will not help responsible landowners comply with the law, and it will not help species recover.

The use of sound science is also undermined by this bill. It gives political appointees the authority to determine the "best available science" without having to consult with recognized scientists and other experts in the field. Under this bill, the use of sophisticated scientific modeling could also be banned. This opens the door to the use of questionable science and politically-motivated findings.

This bill also repeals all Endangered Species Act provisions related to pesticides. Pesticides, such as DOT, have contributed to the decline of many species, including the American bald eagle. Under this bill, the Environmental Protection Agency can approve pesticides without considering their impact on threatened and endangered species. Given the choice between recovery and extinction, this bill appears to favor extinction.

I supported a responsible alternative aimed at recovering species. The Miller/Boehlert substitute amendment contained a more flexible timeline for consideration of projects, clarified the obligation of federal agencies, and provided real landowner incentives for conservation and species recovery. This approach responded to the legitimate concerns of landowners and sportsmen while continuing efforts to recover endangered species. Unfortunately, this amendment was not adopted.

Mr. Speaker, the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act fails to protect vulnerable wildlife and plants and threatens to break the federal bank with a new open-ended entitlement for developers. I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and work together to create a strong, scientific and bipartisan Endangered Species Act.

SALUTING SERGEANT HECTOR R.  
FELICIANO

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute and pay tribute to Sergeant Hector R. Feliciano, a 22-year veteran of the Los Angeles Police Department. Sergeant Feliciano is receiving an honorable mention commendation for the annual TOP COPS Award Ceremony, from the National Association of Police Officers. This is a great honor, and reflects the substantial respect and recognition accorded to Sergeant Feliciano by California and national law enforcement. Sergeant Feliciano represents the very best of our outstanding law enforcement officers, previously being selected as Rampart Sergeant of the year 2004, for distinguishing

himself as an exemplary leader as well as a tactical expert.

Among his many achievements include developing game plans that targeted narcotics violators who utilized the Mac Arthur Park as a base of operations. He also planned operations to address quality of life issues in and around the park. His operations focused on such concerns as drinking in public, illegal street sales, and gambling. He was also tasked with developing and writing operations plans for special events in and around the park. According to superiors, his operations plans were outstanding, covering all aspects of the event from manpower to street closures to tactical considerations. The reduction in crime and improvement in the quality of life in and around the park has been remarkable. The efforts of Sergeant Feliciano, as well as those officers he supervises, has been the topic of crime strategy seminars throughout the Los Angeles Police Department.

Hector is a highly sought after and well-respected supervisor. Even under great pressure, he has repeatedly proven that his is steadfast and levelheaded. Hector has stepped forward to take command in many situations, thus ensuring the welfare of his officers and the citizens of Los Angeles. A notable example of this occurred on November 9, 2004. Sergeant Feliciano employed decisive and heroic actions during a hostage crisis at the Mexican Consulate. His lifesaving intervention resulted in the successful rescue of a pregnant female who was being held hostage by a gunman.

Mr. Speaker, Hector Feliciano has served our community with great distinction. As a husband, father, and grandparent, I feel secure knowing the safety of my loved ones is entrusted to such a fine individual. An officer's work is never done, and because of that, our families are secure.

And so, we thank Hector, with gratitude and respect for his distinguished service. We wish the very best to him, and his wife, Jeanette, and their other family members who are here this month in Washington, DC. God bless, and congratulations on this great honor.

HONORING JUDGE HORACE  
WHEATLEY

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of Alameda County Superior Court Judge Horace Wheatley of Oakland, California. Serving Alameda County on the bench for almost 25 years, Judge Wheatley has been known throughout his career for his unfaltering sense of social justice, and for his unwavering commitment to our young people. Today our community comes together to celebrate his career and achievements on the occasion of his retirement in Oakland, California.

Judge Wheatley was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and raised in San Francisco's historic Fillmore district. After graduating from the "old" Lowell High School in 1957, he went to College of the Pacific, now known as University of the Pacific, later transferring to Howard University in Washington, DC, where he con-

tinued his record as a champion debater. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 had not yet been enacted during his time in college, making some of the challenges he faced in school extend far beyond the realm of academics. When he competed in the National Collegiate Debate Tournament at the University of Oklahoma in 1961, the open and unabated racial discrimination that prevailed in some parts of the country was so severe that the southern colleges who were competing were instructed to walk out of any round in which an African American was competing. Undeterred, Judge Wheatley went on not only to win the tournament, but to be awarded the Pi Kappa Delta gold debate key for his outstanding performance. Following his studies at Howard, Judge Wheatley returned to the University of the Pacific in 1960, where he graduated with a degree in Sociology and Psychology.

Following a successful law school career at Willamette University in Oregon, where he won the school's Moot Court Competition and served as a teaching assistant before earning his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree, Judge Wheatley began serving as Deputy Attorney General for the State of California in 1965. He later went into private practice in Oakland, where he engaged in general litigation practice and was one of the lead attorneys in a precedent-setting class-action lawsuit against the savings and loan industry. In 1972, he became General Counsel for the California Teachers Association, representing the organization's 300,000 members in several noteworthy cases which resulted in precedent-setting rulings in favor of public school teachers' rights and benefits.

Judge Wheatley was appointed as a Judge of the Alameda County Municipal Court on July 1, 1981, by California Governor Edmond G. "Jerry" Brown, Jr., and was elevated to the Alameda County Superior Court when all of the courts in Alameda County were unified in 1998. Known for his tendency to give many young defendants the choice to "Go to school or go to jail," Judge Wheatley's career on the bench has been marked by his steadfast commitment to serving the young people in our community who are most in need of guidance.

Judge Wheatley's outstanding dedication and accomplishments have not only impacted countless young lives, but have also been recognized by a number of the professional organizations of which he is a member. He has not only been inducted into the Charles Houston Bar Association's Hall of Fame, but has also received its "Judicial Excellence Award." In addition, he received the Bernard S. Jefferson Award from the California Association of Black Lawyers as its Judge of the Year in 2001, and has also been named the Lend-A-Hand Foundation's "Man of the Year." This past August, he was inducted into the National Bar Association's Hall of Fame in recognition of having practiced law for over 40 years and made significant contributions to the cause of justice. In addition, he was also given the A. Leon Higginbotham Memorial Award by the Young Lawyers Division of the National Bar Association in recognition of his intellectual accomplishments, professional achievements and community contributions.

Today Judge Wheatley's family, friends and colleagues come together to celebrate the impact of his life and work not only on the innumerable lives, particularly young lives, he has touched here in Alameda County, but the lasting effects his rulings and his commitment to

true justice have had and will continue to have on our legal system. On behalf of the 9th Congressional District of California, I salute and thank Judge Horace Wheatley for his invaluable contributions to the people of Alameda County, the 9th Congressional District, the State of California and our entire country.

CONGRATULATING NEW NMA  
PRESIDENT DR. SANDRA L.  
GADSON

### HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize and congratulate one of my constituents and the 106th president of The National Medical Association, Dr. Sandra L. Gadson.

Founded in 1895, the National Medical Association, NMA, is the largest and oldest national organization representing African American physicians and their patients in the United States. The NMA represents the interests of more than 35,000 African American physicians and the patients they serve and is the leading force for parity and justice in medicine and the elimination of health disparities. Throughout its history, the National Medical Association has focused primarily on health issues related to African Americans and medically underserved populations, as well as all ethnic groups.

Many years ago, Dr. Gadson was herself a patient, facing a battle with colon cancer. In her own words, Dr. Gadson stated: "When my patients curse a rising wave of pain or struggle to give voice to their suffering, I understand because I've been there." This experience has not only influenced Dr. Gadson to be a more sensitive and empathetic doctor, but it inspired her to improve the quality of service available to patients everywhere.

While working in the Emergency Room at Methodist Hospital in Gary, Indiana, Dr. Gadson was shocked to learn that the predominately poor, African American city had a high prevalence of kidney failure but no dialysis center. She immediately took action and established the first freestanding dialysis center in northern Indiana.

In her acceptance speech, Dr. Gadson said that as president of NMA, she will work to increase its membership and mentorship, advocate for a national health plan of universal coverage, strengthen partnerships with churches and the media to promote health awareness, and to launch initiatives in kidney disease that encourage transplantation and organ donation. Dr. Gadson, a practicing nephrologist, also made note of the fact that African Americans make up 13 percent of the U.S. population but nearly one-third of all kidney patients. "The crisis of kidney failure in the African American community mirrors the dilemma of health care disparities," Dr. Gadson stated.

Dr. Gadson's contributions to the health community have been enumerable. As president of the NMA, she will continue to help decrease health disparities and increase access to high quality healthcare for all Americans. We are truly fortunate to have her as a part of our community, and I congratulate her on her achievement.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION  
WITH GOVERNMENT REFORM TO  
GIVE DC CITIZENS A PLACE IN  
STATUARY HALL

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that Government Reform Committee Chair TOM DAVIS (R-VA) and House Administration Committee Ranking Member JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD (D-CA) are introducing a bill with me today to permit two statues honoring citizens of the District of Columbia in Statuary Hall of the Capitol, just as statues honoring citizens of States are placed in the historic hall. This legislation would allow the city to offer two statues to the Congress on behalf of DC residents. As I introduce this bill, as we have just honored the citizens of New Mexico, I ask the committee to remember that with the placement of their second statute, a bill I was pleased to support, I seek equal recognition for the citizens of the District of Columbia.

The District of Columbia was born with the Nation itself. The city has more than two centuries of its very own rich and uniquely American history. It goes without saying that the almost 650,000 American citizens who live in the Nation's Capital deserve the honor of having two of its history makers represented in the halls of the Nation's Capital just as citizens who live in the 50 States have long enjoyed.

Our bill would allow the Mayor and the City Council to devise the method for determining the identity of the honorees, who must be deceased. Mayor Anthony Williams has already agreed to find funds in the District's budget for these statues upon the passage of this legislation.

Every time we allow the District to be excluded from its place among the 50 States, we undermine the Nation's efforts to spread full democracy around the world. While DC residents have not yet obtained the same political equality and voting rights as the citizens of the States, they have all the responsibilities of the States, including paying all Federal taxes and serving in all wars. Today, when our residents are serving in Iraq, the least we should do is to give this city its rightful and equal place in the Capitol. Among our residents now serving their country, the District lost 44-year-old Lt. Col. Paul W. Kimbrough, an African American engineer who was supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. I attended the funeral of 21-year-old Specialist Darryl Dent of the DC National Guard who was killed in Iraq. There are more than 100 soldiers still serving in Iraq from Specialist Dent's 547th Transportation Company.

This bill offers District residents the opportunity to enjoy the same pride that all other citizens experience when they come to their Capital—the opportunity to view memorials that commemorate the efforts of deceased local residents who have made significant contributions to American history.

REP. BARBARA LEE HONORED BY  
THE 100 BLACK MEN OF SILICON  
VALLEY

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, the California Democratic Congressional Delegation is proud to recognize the achievements of our colleague, Rep. Barbara Lee, upon the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the 100 Black Men of Silicon Valley.

The concept of the 100 Black Men was born in New York in 1963, when a group of concerned African American men gathered to explore ways of improving conditions in their community. These visionaries and industry leaders included David Dinkins, Jackie Robinson, Nathaniel Goldston III, Andrew Hatcher and founding President Dr. William Hayling.

The mission of the 100 Black Men of Silicon Valley is to improve the quality of life of our citizens and enhance educational opportunities for African Americans and minorities, through its chapters, in all communities—with a particular emphasis on young African American males. They do this by focusing on mentoring, education, health and wellness, and economic development.

It is fitting that Representative BARBARA LEE is being honored for her long record of standing for youth and family issues such as criminal justice reform as a member of the Public Safety, Sentencing and Incarceration Reform Caucus. Health and wellness has been at a priority for her in Congress as well. She has fought to establish a United States Health Service and provide health coverage for all Americans. The measure, first introduced in 1978 by her predecessor, Representative Ron Dellums, has been a priority for her since her election in 1998. Representative BARBARA LEE has also been committed to promoting economic development and supporting those who need it most, including working to secure investment in housing, transit systems, roads, clean water, and schools to stimulate the economy and create jobs.

We wish to thank the 100 Black Men for their tireless efforts to enhance the quality of life for all citizens, and to Representative BARBARA LEE for her deeply held commitment to the principle of human rights.

IN HONOR OF DON MILANESE,  
VICE PRESIDENT OF LAS  
POSITAS COLLEGE, ON THE OC-  
CASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Don Milanese, vice president of Academic Services at Las Positas College in Livermore, who is retiring after 35 years of service to the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, the Tri-Valley community, and thousands of students.

Don began his career in 1964 as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of California at Davis. Following a 2-year stint in the

Army, he joined Chabot College as an adjunct faculty member teaching political science, while serving as an assistant administrative analyst in the education section of the Legislative Analyst's Office in Sacramento. In 1970, he became the coordinator of Evening and Extension Operations at Chabot College. His warm, supportive manner was felt throughout the campus by faculty, staff and students. After 5 years, Don then became the assistant dean of instruction for Evening and Extension Operations at Chabot College's Valley Campus in Livermore. It was here that Don focused his talents on shaping the vision he shared with other college officials: a college that would serve the Tri-Valley. His hard work, dedication, and ability to dream helped establish Las Positas College. In 1992, he accepted the position of dean of Academic Services at the College, and in 1994 the position converted to the vice president of Academic Services.

Don's talent and wisdom extend beyond community college curriculum and instruction. He has used his skills to create community partnerships to benefit students, the college, and the community. He has been a driving force behind the Tri-Valley Educational Collaborative, which brings together business and education leaders to address issues of mutual interest.

Above and beyond his accomplishments at the colleges of Chabot and Las Positas, Don is revered for his compassionate nature, his ability to know when to lead and when to follow, and his sense of humor. While Don's skills and knowledge will be greatly missed and will leave a void at the college, it is his love of the college, students, faculty, and staff that will be missed the most.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Don Milanese the best of luck in retirement. I hope he finds joy in this next chapter of his life in equal measure to the joy he has given his colleagues in his working life.

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE PHILADELPHIA MURAL ARTS PROGRAM AND THE SOUTH PHILLY MUSICIANS MURAL

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, which will dedicate the new South Philadelphia musicians mural at 9th and Wharton Streets in my district on Saturday, October 8. As everyone knows, Philadelphia has long been one of the capitols of popular culture. This mural will honor seven of the icons of that culture, Jerry Blavat, Al Martino, Frankie Avalon, Fabian, Chubby Checker, Bobby Rydell and Eddie Fisher.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that this mural will include one of the pioneers of rock and roll, my dear friend Jerry Blavat. Jerry was attracted to the music business because of his love for the music, not for fame or wealth. He was a dancer on the original Bandstand television program, hosted by Bob Horn. He became a favorite with the viewers and rose to

the head of the coveted "Committee," the group of teens responsible for aiding Horn in the direction of the show. Jerry got into radio in 1962 and soon was given the title "The Geator With The Heater." He soon coupled his growing popularity on the air, which by 1963 resulted in regional syndication of his program on small stations throughout the Delaware Valley from Atlantic City to Allentown, with appearances off the air at dances, clubs and events. It was not unusual for Blavat to see 5,000 kids a week in person in the mid sixties, nor too much of a stretch to say he would remember 3,000 of their names the following week. His appearances became so frequent that for a time he needed to use a helicopter just to make it on time from one gig to the next. Today the helicopter is gone, but the frantic schedule is still in place. Throughout the year, he can be found somewhere on virtually any night, and in the summer months he is in weekend residence at Memories At Margate, the New Jersey Shore's hottest night spot which he has owned and operated since 1972.

Al Martino will celebrate his 68th birthday on October 7. The son of Italian immigrants, Martino worked as a bricklayer in his father's construction business before being encouraged to become a singer by his friend Mario Lanza. After singing in local clubs, and winning Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts, he recorded "Here In My Heart" for the small BBS record label. It shot to No. 1 in the U.S. chart, and sold over a million copies. This disc was also the first ever record to top the New Musical Express UK listings, inaugurated in 1952. He continued his illustrious career on both stage and screen.

Frankie Avalon was the first and most successful of the teen idols from Philadelphia. He was encouraged to perform from the time he was a child, beginning from when he was tutored on the trumpet by his father. By the time he was 12, he had joined Rocco and the Saints, a dance band that featured another boy from the CR Club, drummer Bobby Rydell. The combo played parish bazaars, shows at the Sons of Italy Hall, weekend sock hops in school gyms, and weekend dances at teen clubs. "Venus" was Avalon's biggest hit selling more than a million copies in the spring of 1959. Three more million sellers in a row, "Bobby Sox To Stockings," "Just Ask Your Heart," and "Why" followed.

In 1960, he co-starred with Alan Ladd in "Guns of the Timberland" and appeared in John Wayne's "Alamo." Appearing in a number of other films Avalon did not have a starring role until 1963's "Drums of Africa." In the early sixties there was a nationwide surfing craze and Hollywood did a number of movies on the subject. Avalon, along with Annette Funicello, were leading stars in these movies. Starting in 1963 he appeared in "Beach Party," "Muscle Beach," "Beach Blanket Bingo," etc.

Mr. Speaker, Avalon's friend, Fabian was an overnight singing sensation, a film star with over 30 films to his credit and the producer of his own concert series. Fabian Forte was actually discovered at the age of 14 sitting on his front steps in Philadelphia. At 15, he won the Silver Award as "The Most Promising Male Vocalist of 1958." By the time he was 18, he had recorded dozens of hit singles, eight al-

bums and earned gold records for "Turn Me Loose" and "Tiger" and a gold album for "The Fabulous Fabian." In 1959, Fabian made his screen debut in "Hound Dog Man" opposite Carol Lynley. His role as a homicidal maniac in a TV production entitled "A Lion Walks Among Us" directed by Robert Altman solidly established his credentials as a versatile and powerful actor. His impressive acting credits include featured roles with John Wayne, James Stewart, Jack Palance, Tuesday Weld, George Segal and Karen Black.

Chubby Checker was born in South Carolina, but grew up in South Philadelphia. By the time he entered high school, he had learned to play the piano at Settlement Music School. In June of 1959, Chubby recorded "The Twist." Fourteen months later, in the summer of 1960, "The Twist" was not only the No. 1 song but it introduced the concept of "dancing apart to the beat." Mr. Speaker, Chubby Checker accomplished many "firsts" in the record industry. He is the only artist to have 5 albums in the top 12 all at once; the only artist to have a song to be No. 1 twice—"The Twist" and the only artist to have nine double-sided hits.

Bobby Rydell, unlike many of the other Teen Idols, was a genuine musician. At the age of 4 or 5, Bobby used to sit in front of the TV set trying to impersonate performers like Louis Prima, Milton Berle, and Johnny Ray. His father recognized Bobby's talent and encouraged him to pursue a show business career. At 5 he began taking lessons on the drums. Three years later he was an accomplished cabaret performer, playing drums and doing imitations. At 9, he was a regular on Paul Whiteman's television show that was broadcast from Philadelphia and performed on it for 3 years. By the time he was a teen, he was playing drums in a dance band Rocco and the Saints. Rydell's million seller, "Wild One" was released in early in 1960. "Swingin' School" b/w "Ding-A-Ling" was a springtime hit and third million seller. That summer "Volare" was released. The song had been pulled from a previous unsuccessful session of songs in a big band style to introduce Rydell to an older audience.

Mr. Speaker, Eddie Fisher received his first wide exposure as frequent guest performer on Eddie Cantor's early-fifties TV broadcasts. Later responsible for million-selling records during the fifties, including "Any Time," his signature song, "O My Papa," and many others. In 1953 Eddie Fisher was given his own 15-minute TV show called "Coke Time," sponsored by the Coca-Cola company. This show proved to be so popular that Coke then offered Eddie a \$1 million contract to be their national spokesperson. A deal of that magnitude was almost unheard of at this time and helped push Fisher towards being one of the most popular singers by 1954. At the height of his popularity, during the 1950s, Fisher was, along with Perry Como and Elvis Presley, RCA Victor's top-selling pop vocalist. His many hits during this period, all well remembered, include: "Anytime," his first big hit, "Oh, My Papa," "Wish You Were Here," "I Need You Now," "Dungaree Doll," "I'm Walking Behind You," "Heart," "Games That Lovers Play" and "Somebody Like You."

IN HONOR OF 7TH LANCE  
CORPORAL JAMES R. SARGENT

### HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today, 7th Lance Corporal James R. Sargent USMC, was laid to rest at Arlington Cemetery after being listed as missing in action for more than 37 years.

Lance Corporal Sargent, a native of Anawalt, WV, was a true American hero and today marks the end of a long journey for his family and friends.

Lance Corporal Sargent, like so many West Virginians, answered our Nation's call to arms. He wore the uniform and gave his life for freedom's cause.

Lance Corporal Sargent was part of an artillery platoon airlifted to provide support to the 11th Mobile Strike Force, which was under threat of attack from North Vietnamese forces near Kham Duc in South Vietnam. On May 9, 1968, the Strike Force had been directed to reconnoiter an area known as Little Ngok Tavak Hill near the Laos-Vietnam border, in the Kham Duc Province. Their base came under heavy attack by North Vietnamese Army troops, but after a 10-hour battle, all of the survivors were able to withdraw from the area.

LCpl, Sargent, one of 13 Marines killed in this battle, was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for his heroism at Ngok Tavak. The Bible says in the book of John, Chapter 15, Verse 13, "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." Today we honor not only Lance Corporal Sargent, but all of the soldiers, airmen and Marines who, through commitment and courage, have answered the call to protect the ones they love. This is truly the greatest gift one can give.

I would also like to submit for the RECORD The Secretary of the Navy Citation for the Meritorious Unit Commendation—a detailed account of Lance Corporal Sargent's heroism:

The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the Meritorious Unit Commendation to: Detachment, Battery D, Second Battalion, and Thirteenth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced)

#### CITATION

For heroic achievement in action against enemy Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces during the defense of the Civilian Irregular Defense Group camp known as Ngok Tavak on 10 May 1968. The detachment, consisting of one officer and 43 enlisted men, was tasked with the mission of providing artillery support to the camp. In the early morning, while providing this support to a mixed force of U.S. Army Special Forces and Vietnamese irregulars, the detachment's defensive position came under attack by a determined and well equipped enemy force of estimated battalion size. Employing an intense mortar barrage, grenades and heavy small-arms fire, the enemy breached the outer defensive wire in two places and surged through the wire in superior numbers, launching a series of assaults directly against the small defensive perimeter the Marines had formed around their howitzers.

Although seriously depleted by heavy casualties, including the detachment commander and the platoon sergeant, the gallant men of the detachment steadfastly met and contained each assault with withering fire from automatic weapons, grenades, and

point-blank individual weapons. On separate occasions, Marines braved the hail of grenade fragments and automatic weapons fire to man a 4.2-inch mortar, an 81mm mortar, and a 30-caliber machine gun belonging to the Special Forces Detachment. Although continually exposed, they brought the fires of these weapons to bear on the attacking enemy and inflicted heavy casualties.

When the survivors of the detachment were ordered to abandon their position, mute evidence of their ferocity as fighting men lay about them in the form of 31 confirmed enemy dead. The successful evacuation of the position was completed under the direct observation and fire of the remaining enemy force. Accompanied by the surviving Civilian Irregular Defense Group forces, the men of the detachment marched for six hours through dense enemy-infested jungle until successfully extracted by helicopter. Of the original detachment, 13 Marines were killed in action and 20 were wounded in action. By their effective teamwork, aggressive fighting spirit, and individual acts of heroism and daring, the artillerymen of this detachment achieved an illustrious record of courage and skill in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

All personnel attached to and serving with Detachment, Battery D, Second Battalion, Thirteenth Marines, First Marine Division (Reinforced), during the cited action, are hereby authorized to wear the Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon.

For the Secretary of the Navy, L. F. CHAPMAN, JR., Commandant of the Marine Corps.

### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CARMEN N. CIQUEIROS TAFOYA PERKINS MULLALY

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take a few moments to honor my cousin, Carmen N. Ciqueiros Tafoya Perkins Mullaly, from Long Beach, California, whose life was cut short on September 11, 2005.

Carmen was born in Los Angeles, California on September 17, 1926 and was always a proud Angeleno. She attended Hammel Elementary School and Belvedere Junior High, and graduated from Roosevelt High School in Los Angeles.

Early on in life, Carmen developed a belief in the principles of the Democratic Party. An active member of the League of Women Voters, Carmen never missed voting in a single election. My cousin's enthusiasm for Election Day was an inspiration to all those around her, as she often opened her own home to serve as a polling precinct for primary and general elections.

In addition to her allegiance to the Democratic Party, Carmen loved being an Anaheim Angels fan. Carmen enjoyed cheering her favorite team on to victory over the years at the Angel Stadium of Anaheim.

Carmen was beloved by our large family, and we all miss her since her passing. I know that my father, former Congressman Edward R. Roybal, will especially miss his cousin.

Carmen is survived by her children: Virgilia Goodwin of Aurora, Colorado; Jack Perkins of Huntington Beach, California; Dwight Perkins of Woodburn, Oregon; Gayle Rex of Walla

Walla, Washington; and Patrick Mullaly of Kennewick, Washington. She is also survived by her sister, Geraldine Overton of Lakewood, California, and by her stepchildren, Tom Mullaly of Irvine, California; Cindy Mullaly of Chicago, Illinois; and Scott Mullaly of San Diego, California. Carmen is also survived by a niece, Geraldine O. Wiese of Cornwall, England. Carmen was preceded in death by her stepson, Mark Mullaly, and her husband Thomas J. Mullaly.

Although my family and I mourn Carmen today, we are also grateful for the many happy moments she brought into the lives of those around her. Today we mourn her death and celebrate her abundant life.

### RECOGNIZING THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) AND ITS DIRECTOR GENERAL, MOHAMED ELBARADEI, JOINT RECIPIENTS OF THE 2005 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

### HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the award of the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its Director General, Mohamed ElBaradei. Today the IAEA and Dr. ElBaradei were jointly awarded this most prestigious of awards for their active efforts against the spread of nuclear arms and against the misuse of nuclear energy for military purposes.

As we know, Dr. ElBaradei and the IAEA were asked by the United Nations, at the urging of the United States, to serve the cause of world peace by engaging in a vigorous effort to find whatever evidence might exist of a Nuclear Weapons program in Iraq through any-time, anywhere inspections. Dr. ElBaradei and the IAEA did their jobs, and the world had an opportunity both to serve the cause of preventing weapons proliferation and heading off a very costly war. Unfortunately, the United States decided to forego this opportunity, and war ensued.

Now, the world is turning once again to the IAEA as the only way to prevent weapons proliferation in Iraq and in North Korea. Will the IAEA be supported this time? The Nobel Committee's decision to recognize the work of the IAEA, and of Dr. ElBaradei, increases the likelihood that such support will be forthcoming. It is needed now more than ever.

I submit below an excerpt from the press release from the Nobel Committee, describing why the important work of the IAEA and Dr. ElBaradei is deserved of such an honor.

At a time when the threat of nuclear arms is again increasing, the Norwegian Nobel Committee wishes to underline that this threat must be met through the broadest possible international cooperation. This principle finds its clearest expression today in the work of the IAEA and its Director General. In the nuclear non-proliferation regime, it is the IAEA which controls that nuclear energy is not misused for military purposes, and the Director General has stood out as an unafraid advocate of new measures to strengthen that regime. At a time when disarmament efforts appear deadlocked, when there is a danger that nuclear arms

will spread both to states and to terrorist groups, and when nuclear power again appears to be playing an increasingly significant role, IAEA's work is of incalculable importance.

In his will, Alfred Nobel wrote that the Peace Prize should, among other criteria, be awarded to whoever had done most for the "abolition or reduction of standing armies". In its application of this criterion in recent decades, the Norwegian Nobel Committee has concentrated on the struggle to diminish the significance of nuclear arms in international politics, with a view to their abolition. That the world has achieved little in this respect makes active opposition to nuclear arms all the more important today.

# THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to clarify the intent and importance of language in H.R. 3824 regarding the discretionary nature of recovery plans under the ESA. Language in TESRA states that, "Nothing in a recovery plan shall be construed to establish regulatory requirements." This important language will ensure that, as is currently the case, recovery plans cannot be used as a regulatory "hammer" on private landowners or others. Let me elaborate.

The ESA § 4(f) states that the Secretaries of Interior and Commerce "shall develop and implement recovery plans" for listed species, "unless . . . such a plan will not promote the conservation of the species." This responsibility has been delegated to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) (collectively, the Services).

Thus, as a general matter, the ESA compels the Services to develop recovery plans. While FWS and NOAA Fisheries are under a general duty to develop a recovery plan for listed species, the federal courts are in unanimous agreement that the contents of a recovery plan are discretionary with the Services. Recovery plans do not impose legal obligations or requirements on anyone—not on private landowners, not on local or state government units, and not even on the federal government itself. Rather, the case law makes clear that recovery plans are guidance documents.

For example, the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals rejected the argument of an environmental group that would have "elevate[d] the 1987 [Florida panther] recovery plan into a document with the force of law." *Fund for Animals v. Rice*, 85 F.3d 535,547 (11th Cir. 1996). The 11th Circuit wrote that ESA § 4(f):

"makes it plain that recovery plans are for guidance purposes only. . . . By providing general guidance as to what is required in a recovery plan, the ESA 'breathe[s] discretion at every pore.'"

Id. (emphasis supplied), citing *Strickland v. Morton*, 519 F.2d 467, 469 (9th Cir. 1975)).

FWS itself has taken the position that recovery plans have no binding effect. Courts have agreed with the agency's position. For example, in *Biodiversity Legal Found. v. Norton*, 285 F.Supp. 2d 1 (D.D.C. 2003), environmental groups argued that the recovery plan for the Cape Sable Seaside sparrow had a binding impact to compel revisions to the species' critical habitat. FWS asserted that "the content of Recovery Plans required under ESA § 4(f) is not binding upon the Service, so cannot create a legal duty." Id. at 13. The district court, citing the 11th Circuit's opinion in *Fund for Animals* (discussed above), agreed with FWS. It ruled that the sparrow's recovery plan "was merely a guidance, which FWS had discretion to follow." Id.

Similarly, environmental groups claimed that the recovery plan for certain whale species was deficient because it failed to include substantive, mandatory requirements. The court disagreed, holding that "[c]ase law instructs that [FWS is] correct in [its] assertion that the content of recovery plans is discretionary." *Strahan v. Linnon*, 967 F.Supp. 581, 597 (D.Mass. 1997), *aff'd*, 187 F.3d 623 (1st Cir. 1998). The court recognized that FWS is under a statutory duty to develop a recovery plan "to the extent that it is feasible and possible," but that "requirement does not mean that the agency can be forced to include specific measures in its recovery plan." Id. at 598. Environmental groups also argued that the recovery plan for the Perdido Key beach mouse must include an expansion of the species' critical habitat. The court, aligned with all of the other opinions on the topic, rejected the environmentalists' argument because "the contents of the [recovery plan] are discretionary." *Morrill v. Lujan*, 802 F.Supp. 424, 433 (S.D.Ala. 1992).

There is a strong policy justification for finding that recovery plans are discretionary: namely, to allow FWS to allocate its scarce resources as it sees fit. "Congress recognized that the development of recovery plans for listed species would take significant time and resources. It therefore provided in the ESA that the Secretary could establish a priority system for developing and implementing such plans. This priority system allows the Secretary broad discretion to allocate scarce resources to those species that he or she determines would most likely benefit from development of a recovery plan." *Oregon Natural Resources Council, supra*, 863 F.Supp. at 1282–83 (emphasis supplied).

To conclude, in a rare show of agreement among court interpretations of the ESA, the federal judges that have addressed this point have all agreed that recovery plans are simply discretionary guidance documents, with no binding effect. It is clearly the intent of H.R. 3824 to not only remain consistent with this established line of precedent, but to codify this important fact.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2360, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the FY 2006 Homeland Security Appropriations conference report. This bill does not fully address our homeland security needs. Still, it provides vital funds to make our country safer, and so I will support it today.

Total funding in the bill is increased from this year's levels. Specifically, the bill increases funding over the requested levels for immigration and for customs and border protection. The agreement also provides \$1.5 billion, 35 percent more than current funding, for science and technology programs.

I am pleased that the conferees adopted an important amendment offered by Rep. DAVID OBEY that requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide details on how money appropriated for responding to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita is spent. I am a co-sponsor of H.R. 3737, a bill that would create a Special Inspector General for Hurricane Katrina Recovery who would have oversight over all federal Hurricane Katrina emergency funding. While the Obey amendment doesn't go as far as this legislation, it is a significant step forward.

I am also pleased that the conference report includes funding to help states comply with the REAL ID Act. Estimates are that complying with the Act will cost the states between \$100 million and \$500 million over the next 4 years. Since the majority saw fit to push the REAL ID provisions through Congress, it is important that Congress also provides funding to do the job.

Still, I'm concerned about shortfalls in the bill. It cuts fire grants by \$60 million (8 percent) below FY 2005, even as a recent survey found that fire departments all over the country aren't prepared to respond to a haz-mat incident and lack equipment. The bill also cuts State and local domestic preparedness grants by \$585 million (19 percent) and Urban Area Security Initiative grants by \$270 million (26 percent) below FY 2005 levels. Funding for communications equipment for first responders is cut from the levels in the bill the House passed in May, before Katrina struck—from \$27 million to \$15 million. The bill does provide additional funding for border patrol, but the number of agents still falls 1,000 short of the 2,000 called for in the Intelligence Reform bill. Since September 11th, just 965 additional border patrol agents have been hired—less than a 10 percent increase in 4 years.

The conference report fails to provide much more than basic funding for the security of rail and public transportation systems because DHS has not yet spent funds it was allocated last year. Despite the fact that passenger rail in the U.S. carries about five times as many passengers each day as do airlines, this bill only includes \$36 million for ground transportation security and \$150 million for State grants to protect mass transit systems, as compared to \$4.6 billion for aviation security. I'm very concerned that crucial security upgrades to our rail and public transportation



systems—especially in light of the bombings in Madrid and London—can't move forward more quickly. The bill also underfunds port security and does not include \$50 million for chemical plant security that was included in the House-passed bill.

I'm also concerned that this bill includes DHS Secretary Chertoff's proposal to create a new Preparedness Directory and take that responsibility away from FEMA, making FEMA a standalone office focused on response and recovery only. Secretary Chertoff's proposal was made in July—before Hurricane Katrina hit—and this bill would move it forward. This Administration crippled FEMA by making it just one of many organizational boxes under the Homeland Security Department. Splitting preparedness and response and recovery tasks now would weaken FEMA even further, at a time when we should be focusing on how to learn from the lessons of Katrina.

Instead of making these changes in FEMA, we should remove it from DHS and make it an independent agency under qualified leadership, as would happen under the bill (H.R. 3816) I introduced last month.

Mr. Speaker, much remains to be done to improve our defenses against terrorism. I do not believe this bill sets the right priorities or provides sufficient resources, but it does fund programs that are critical to our homeland security. The conference report is an important step, and I will vote for it.

#### INDIA'S UNFINISHED AGENDA: EQUALITY AND JUSTICE FOR 200 MILLION VICTIMS OF THE CASTE SYSTEM

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations studied the terrible situation facing India's Dalits and tribal peoples. Taken together, Dalits and tribal peoples constitute as many as 250 million people. The Dalits, whose name means "the oppressed," are much better known as "untouchables," although this demeaning name is not the one they choose for themselves. They are also often referred to in official documents as "Scheduled Castes, and occasionally as "Harijans," or "Children of God," a name given them by Gandhi. The tribal peoples are often referred to as Scheduled Tribes, or Adivasis, which means indigenous or aboriginal inhabitants. The Dalits and tribal peoples are treated as virtual non-humans, and suffer pervasive discrimination and violation of their human rights.

This topic has taken on a special relevance. India's reformist government has made great strides to open its economy, and improve the lot of all its citizens. It has also played a leading role in the Community of Democracies and the U.N.'s Democracy Caucus and the U.N. Democracy Fund. In June and July of this year the U.S. and India announced a series of agreements that represent a quantum leap in cooperation between the world's two most populous democracies after decades of estrangement during the Cold War. On July 18th, U.S. and Indian leaders issued a joint

statement resolving to establish a "global partnership" between the two nations through increased cooperation on a wide range of issues. We heartily welcome all of these actions.

However, there is still a long road to travel. Most observers have focused on the nuclear proliferation implications of our announced agreements as potential stumbling blocks to a true strategic partnership between the U.S. and India. But as we seek to develop a strategic partnership, we must not lose sight of India's serious human rights problems. These problems are amply documented in the three current State Department reports: the 2004 Human Rights Report on India, the 2005 Report on Trafficking in Persons, and the 2004 Report on Religious Freedom. All three are massive catalogues of human rights violations which the Government of India condones, ignores, and in some instances, has even promoted.

To quote the 2004 Human Rights Report on India:

Security force officials who committed human rights abuses generally enjoyed de facto legal impunity . . . violations included: torture and rape by police and other government agents; . . . harassment and arrest of human rights monitors; . . . forced prostitution; child prostitution and female infanticide; trafficking in women and children; . . . serious discrimination and violence against indigenous people and scheduled castes and tribes; widespread intercaste and communal violence; religiously motivated violence against Muslims and Christians; and widespread exploitation of indentured, bonded, and child labor.

Further, the 2005 Report on Trafficking in Persons has this to say. Again I quote:

India is a source, transit, and destination country for women, men, and children trafficked for the purposes of sexual and labor exploitation . . . Internal trafficking . . . for . . . sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, bonded labor, and indentured servitude is widespread . . . the vast majority of females in the Indian commercial sex industry are currently victims of sexual servitude or were originally trafficked into the sex trade. India is also home to millions of victims of forced or bonded labor.

The Government of India does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.

India was placed on Tier 2 Watch List for human trafficking a second consecutive year in 2005. Many of us believe it should be a Tier III country.

The State Department's 2004 Report on Religious Freedom also had many harsh words for India's respect for religious freedom. It noted that the Indian government, despite India's constitutional commitment to religious freedom and secular government, was often lax in protecting religious minorities from attack, and in punishing their persecutors. Religious extremists have taken such laxity as a signal that they can attack with impunity. Missionaries were often harassed, and the right to freely choose one's own religion was often violated.

Finally, there is abortion. In theory, India only allows abortions for risk to the life of the mother, or "grave risks" to her health, or for "substantial risk" of fetal impairment. Yet like so many countries where the absolute right to life of the unborn child has been disregarded in a misguided attempt to provide a so-called

"limited" abortion license, the reality is that there is abortion on demand. Estimates of abortions run as high as 7 million a year. There are some estimates that 17 percent of maternal deaths are due to abortion: so much for "safe, legal and rare."

And abortion is not just at the demand of the mother, but often at the demand of relatives who don't want girl babies. The incidence of "sex-selection abortions" has reached staggering proportions. As many as 50 million girls and women are missing from India's population as a result of infanticide and abortion. In most countries in the world, there are approximately 105 female births for every 100 males. In India, there are less than 93 women for every 100 men in the population. In one wealthier area of the capital of New Delhi, the sex ratio at birth has dropped to 762 girls for every 1,000 boys, one of the lowest in the entire country. The problem is getting worse as scientific methods of detecting the sex of a baby and of performing abortions are improving. These methods are becoming increasingly available even in rural areas.

India banned sex-selection abortions in 1996, but the health minister recently admitted that not a single person has ever been convicted or otherwise punished for having carried out sex selective abortions. UNICEF has warned that unless steps are taken to address the problem, India will soon face severe social problems, not least increased trafficking of women, which is already an enormous problem. As more and more girls are aborted or murdered after birth, more and more poor women and girls will be trafficked.

All of this background will provide the context for today's hearing. India's Dalits and tribal peoples are victims of all the human rights violations prevalent in India, and to a far greater extent than most other Indians.

According to India's caste system, Dalits are impure, and even their shadow can pollute. Dalits are discriminated against, denied access to land and forced to work in degrading conditions. Dalit men, women, and children numbering in the tens of millions work as agricultural laborers for a few pounds of rice or less than a dollar a day. Their upper-caste employers frequently use caste as a cover for exploitative economic arrangements. In India's own version of "apartheid," entire villages in many Indian states remain completely segregated by caste. Dalits dare not even walk in the part of the village occupied by higher castes. They may not use the same wells, visit the same temples, drink from the same cups in tea stalls, or lay claim to land that is legally theirs. Dalit children are frequently made to sit in the back of classrooms.

Most Dalits continue to live in extreme poverty, without land or opportunities for better employment or education. India has a policy of quotas in education and government jobs to benefit Dalits and tribal peoples. But most cannot afford primary education, so their literacy rates remain very low and only a small minority can benefit from these quotas.

Dalits are routinely abused at the hands of the police and of higher caste group that enjoys the state's protection. According to India's National Crime Records Bureau, in 2000, the last year for which figures are available, 25,455 crimes were committed against Dalits. Every hour two Dalits were assaulted; every day three Dalit women were raped, two Dalits were murdered, and two Dalit homes were

torched. And most experts believe that these numbers are grossly underreported, since Dalits are afraid to report crimes to police, and when they do, police often refused to register or investigate their complaints. In 2001 Amnesty International estimated that only about 5 percent of sexual assaults were registered, and that police officers dismissed at least 30 percent of rape complaints as false.

Approximately eighty percent of the tribal population lives below the poverty level. Despite constitutional safeguards, the rights of indigenous groups in the eastern parts of the country are often ignored. In recent years, crime against the tribes has risen. Indigenous peoples suffer discrimination and harassment, are deprived of their land, and subjected to torture and to arbitrary arrest. Mob violence, lynching, arson, and police atrocities against tribal persons occur in many states.

Dalits and tribal peoples suffer horribly from human trafficking. Dalit girls have been forced to become temple prostitutes as devadasis, or "servants of god," a practice where they are "married" to a deity or temple where they are then forced to have sex with upper caste men and are eventually sold into prostitution. In 2001, more than 40,000 tribal women were forced into situations of economic and sexual exploitation. An estimated 40 million people, most of them Dalits, are bonded workers, many working to pay off debts that were incurred generations ago, according to a 1999 report by Human Rights Watch. These people work under slave-like conditions for less than U.S. \$1 per day. Fifteen million are children, and according to UNICEF, the majority are from the lowest castes.

Dalits and tribal peoples are often the targets of Hindu religious extremism as well. Over the years, many Dalits and tribal groups have converted from Hinduism to other faiths to escape widespread discrimination and achieve higher social status. However, such converts often lose benefits conferred by the Government's affirmative action programs because these, according to the Constitution, are reserved only for those having scheduled caste status. Converts to Christianity are particularly targeted.

Christian missionaries have been operating schools and medical clinics for many years in tribal areas and among the very poor, and tribal peoples and Dalits have made great strides as a result. Hindu extremists resent these gains for disturbing the traditional social order, since better educated Dalits and tribals no longer accept their disadvantaged status as readily as they once did. Some Hindu groups fear that Christians may try to convert large numbers of lower caste Hindus, using economic or social welfare incentives. Many acts of violence against Christians stem from these fears, and most go unpunished. Many states have also adopted anti-conversion laws, in violation of India's constitutional protection for religious freedom.

In many cases, India has very good laws to protect the human rights of its citizens, although new and tougher legislation against trafficking is clearly necessary. But the best laws in the world are useless unless there is vigorous enforcement, and all too often, enforcement of laws protecting human rights is weak or non-existent. As an American I can easily understand the difficulty in a democratic, federal system of confronting deeply ingrained social prejudices against a minority,

but that difficulty must be faced and overcome in any nation which aspires to its rightful place as one of the great nations in the world. To keep nearly a quarter of one's population in subhuman status is not only a grotesque violation of human rights, but it is a formula for economic and political stagnation as well. Once in America, we deprived African Americans of the most basic rights and opportunities. This was especially true in our Southern states, which were once a byword for poverty and backwardness among people of all races. For a long time we refused to act at a national level to stop lynchings, often arguing that it was a local problem. Yet we all suffered the consequences of shutting off a huge segment of our population from equality and justice. Now, after the civil rights movement ended all legal basis for discrimination, and lynching is only a shameful memory, the Southern states are among the most economically dynamic in America, and all regions of America enjoy unprecedented prosperity. By fulfilling its promises of equality and justice for all, India will also benefit in every way imaginable.

#### INTRODUCTION OF ALS REGISTRY ACT OF 2005

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the ALS Registry Act of 2005 with my esteemed colleague, LEE TERRY of Nebraska. We are proud to have the support of over 40 other bi-partisan members of Congress today as original co-sponsors of this important legislation.

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) is a fatal, progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects motor nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. While the great baseball player, Lou Gehrig, put a national face on ALS over 65 years ago, my own family was devastated by the death of my grandmother, Dora Engel, who passed away from ALS in her 50s. Unfortunately, families across the Nation face the challenges and experience the suffering associated with ALS every single day. 5,600 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with ALS each year, and it is estimated that as many as 30,000 Americans have the disease at any given time. The average life expectancy for a person with ALS is two to five years from the time of diagnosis. The causes of ALS are not well understood and there is no known cure. We must provide hope to change this tragedy today.

Surprisingly, a single national patient registry which collects and stores information on the prevalence and incidence of ALS does not currently exist in the United States today. The legislation I am introducing with Congressman TERRY, would create an ALS registry at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and will aid in the search for a cure to this devastating disease. The registry will collect data concerning: the incidence and prevalence of ALS in the United States; the environmental and occupational factors that may contribute to the disease; the age, race or ethnicity, gender and family history of individuals diagnosed; and other information essential to the study of ALS. The registry will also provide a

secure method to put patients in contact with scientists conducting clinical trials and scientists studying the environmental and genetic causes of ALS.

We need to provide our Nation's researchers and clinicians with the tools and information they need to make progress in the fight against ALS. The data made available by a national registry will potentially allow scientists to identify causes of the disease, and maybe even lead to the discovery of new treatment, a cure for ALS, or even a way to prevent the disease in the first place. This is good public policy.

The establishment of a registry will bring new hope to thousands of patients and their families that ALS will no longer be a death sentence. I strongly urge the swift consideration and passage of the ALS Registry Act of 2005.

#### RECOGNIZING RICHARD "NUB" BROWN

#### HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Richard "Nub" Brown of Winnsboro, Texas, for his effort to fight crime and support law enforcement through the Enough Is Enough Drug Task Force.

On April 18, 2005, in response to a drug-related tragedy in Winnsboro, Nub Brown gathered over 340 members of the community in the high school auditorium and cried, "Enough is enough!" Several committees were formed that evening to work with city officials and law enforcement officers to rid Winnsboro of drugs. Today this program is helping educate and inform the community of Winnsboro about drug awareness and to help achieve a safe and drug-free environment.

Nub Brown is an active member of his community, serving as the Youth and Education Minister of Pine Street Baptist Church since 1997. He is also an active member of his community, speaking on drug and alcohol awareness in many schools, civic clubs, youth groups and churches, as well as serving the prison ministry at the Clyde M. Johnston Unit in Winnsboro.

As the father of two children, I appreciate the leadership of Nub Brown and his commitment to rid his community of drugs. Today, I would like to thank him for his public service and for the outstanding contributions he has made to make his community and his country a better place.

#### 70TH ANNUAL TUSKEGEE-MOREHOUSE FOOTBALL CLASSIC

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, October 8, 2005, the Golden and Maroon Tigers will face each other on the field at McClung Stadium in Columbus, Georgia for the 70th Annual Tuskegee-Morehouse Football Classic.

The historic clash of these two titans of college football, is more than just a ball game between two rivals, the event itself, themed a "salute to our military troops" is an opportunity for us to pause and celebrate the tremendous role that we as African Americans and as former, current and future leaders of men and women play in the success of our great nation.

As many of you know, African-Americans have a proud and rich tradition of service to our nation. From Crispus Attucks, born a slave, who was the first casualty of the Revolutionary War to the oldest Buffalo Soldier and Calvaryman, Sergeant Mark Matthews, who fought under General Pershing in the Spanish American War and recently died at age 111; from the Black Union Soldiers who volunteered and fought in America's Civil War, to July 19, 1941, when during World War II, a program began in Alabama to train black Americans as military pilots, a squadron of fighter pilots that we now know as the Tuskegee Airmen.

We honor and recognize those African-American servicemen and women who have served in the Korean War, Vietnam, and Operation Desert Storm, as well as the brave soldiers, sailors and marines who continue to serve in our Nation's global war on terror. Officers and soldiers trained by institutions such as Morehouse College and Tuskegee University have and continue to fight for freedom. We pay tribute to them today, as we honor the courageous men and women, here at Fort Benning and around the world who dedicate their lives for their country.

Therefore, I invite my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as those present at this year's 70th Annual Tuskegee-Morehouse Football Classic to join me in saluting our military troops. We pause in celebration and in recognition of their service and sacrifice on our behalf.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF TAIWAN

### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the anniversary of the Republic of China's (Taiwan) Independence Day, a day commonly referred to as Double 10 Day. Double 10 Day celebrates the start of the Wuchang Uprising on October 10, 1911, which led to the collapse of the Qing dynasty. It is therefore also known in Chinese as National Celebration Day. I am proud to join with the people of Taiwan and their leader President Chen Shui-bian in commemorating the Chinese people's struggle for independence.

Double 10 Day offers those of us in Congress an opportunity to recognize Taiwan's friendship and unwavering alliance with the United States. This strong alliance is predicated in part on shared values. In fact, Taiwan has nurtured a stable democracy and vibrant economy that encourages the entrepreneurial spirit. Taiwan has also become a model society. It has excellent schools, outstanding medical care, a strong economy, and many of its people enjoy one of the highest standards of living. Taiwan's social welfare programs have been making laudable efforts to raise the standard of living for all.

Mr. Speaker, I would also take this opportunity to praise the good work of Taiwan Representative David Tawei Lee. He is a fine diplomat who has kept those of us in Congress well informed and well briefed on all of the latest developments in Taiwan.

Again, congratulations to the people of Taiwan on their Independence Day and I wish the 23 million people of Taiwan continued progress and prosperity.

#### TRIBUTE TO STEVE SLIGER

### HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, my good friend and an outstanding Central Florida businessman, Stephen Blair Sliger, passed away on October 4, 2005.

He is a native of Deland, Florida where was he born on November 21, 1952. Steve Sliger was preceded in death by his brother, Gus A. Sliger. Gus, also a close friend, lost his life 10 years ago in a tragic motorcycle accident. Steve headed Sliger and Associates of Port Orange, FL, founded by his late brother.

A wonderful father and husband, he was dedicated to his family, his community, and his business.

To Steve's wife, Sonia, his sons Adam and Noah, his father Gus A. Sliger, II and all of his family, we extend our deepest sympathy. They have lost a loved one. I have lost a good friend and our community has lost a great American.

#### HONORING LIMA COMPANY, 3RD BATTALION, 25TH REGIMENT UPON THEIR RETURN HOME FROM IRAQ

### HON. DEBORAH PRYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, throughout Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, Ohio has shouldered an enormous share of the sacrifice, but no one has shouldered a greater share than the Marines and families of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Regiment, based in my hometown of Columbus. On August 3, 2005, this brave group of soldiers lost nine of their brethren in western Iraq. Since its deployment in March, Lima Company has lost fifteen of its 160 men.

The 3rd Battalion, 25th Marines' reputation is legendary. First activated on May 1, 1943, "3/25" captured a key airfield at the Batte of Iwo Jima in the Pacific. The battalion fought heroically in the battles of Kwajalein Atoll, Saipan, Tinian, and Colonel Justice Marino Chambers received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery as Commander of the 3/25 at Iwo Jima. After being deactivated at the end of WWII, the battalion was reactivated in January of this year, and headed to Iraq in March.

It truly is impossible for us to fully comprehend the dangerous mission these valiant Marines have undertaken in Iraq. They've

been tasked with the most strategic yet risky assignments, often moving from town to town, door to door, in search of armed insurgents along the Euphrates River. And as desperate insurgents have been staging more frequent and deadly attacks on our armed forces, Lima Company endured the brunt of these attacks on that fateful day in August and laid to rest nine brave soldiers.

When confronted with a loss as great as this, we all search for some perspective, trying to balance the sacrifices made by these brave Marines with the vital mission our soldiers are carrying out in both Iraq and Afghanistan. We take some solace in knowing that because of the commitment and dedication to freedom by America's soldiers and those of our allies, more people in the Middle East region are living in freedom under democratically elected governments than at any point in the history of this region. We have witnessed free elections in Palestine and the election of a leader committed to achieving lasting peace. Saudi Arabia has held elections, and Syria has ended its occupation of Lebanon. Libya's nuclear program has been dismantled, and Egypt is allowing for challengers to compete in a public election against the sitting president. This democratic domino effect portends a safer, freer future for the people of the Middle East and the rest of the world.

As Lima Company returns home to Ohio, the Iraqi people are about to embark on a monumental endeavor—casting a vote on their very own Constitution—drafted by officials they selected just ten months ago in a free and fair election. I have to think that the crossing of these two meaningful events is not coincidental. There is far too much symbolism. This Constitution is a tangible and lasting symbol of freedom and liberty in a part of the world that for centuries has known neither, yet without the brave sacrifices of Lima Company, and all of America's armed forces, they would probably never know. Thank you, Lima Company, for your bravery, heroism, and sacrifice. We welcome you home.

#### RECOGNIZING MELVIN KREB OF HUMBOLDT COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Melvin Horton Krebs, deputy director of the California Conservation Corps and a distinguished citizen of Humboldt County, CA. He is being honored for his contribution to one of our Nation's most precious rights—participation in the political system. His commitment to the preservation of our political liberty is worthy of appreciation and recognition.

Mr. Krebs, a graduate of Humboldt State University, has served with distinction at the California Conservation Corps since 1980. He began his career as a conservation administrator and spent many years as the district director for northern California. In the past year he was singled out to become the chief deputy director in the State of California.

Mel was a founding member of the Eel River Watershed Improvement Group and the Salmonid Restoration Federation. He has received numerous awards for his restoration

work, including the Renew America Foundation Award and the Chevron Times Mirror Conservation Award. From the Salmonid Restoration Federation he was presented with the distinguished Nat Bingham Restorationist of the Year award.

Mel Kreb has been unflagging in his commitment to his community. In addition to his long and distinguished career in the California Conservation Corps, Mel has served on numerous boards of directors, including the Humboldt State Alumni Association, the Backcountry Horsemen of California and the Humboldt Democratic Central Committee. He was a charter member of the Fortuna Certified Farmer's Market and is active in the Fortuna Kiwanis as well as serving as the chair of the Redcrest Volunteer Fire Department.

Mel's dedication to his community has been shared by his wife Hollis and passed along to their children Gabriel and Helena.

Mel is being recognized this year for his outstanding contributions to the political process by the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee as the "Democrat of the Year, 2005."

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Melvin Horton Kreb for his contribution to the ideals and traditions that have made our country a great nation.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARY RITA GENDRON

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Mary Rita Downing Gendron. Mary passed away on Wednesday, September 14, 2005, at the age of 84. Mary was born in Lowell on December 24, 1920, the daughter of John and Rose Purcell Downing. For 60 years, she was the beloved wife of the late Arthur W. Gendron, a former Lowell firefighter.

Mrs. Gendron is survived by three daughters and two sons, Geraldine R. McSwiggin and her husband Jack of Dracut, William A. Gendron and his wife Paula Skrekas, Patricia A. Tobin and her husband Kevin, Christine G. Florence and her husband William, and Stephen J. Gendron and his wife Katherine Kijanka, all of Lowell, as well as a son-in-law Bruce G. Johnson, also of Lowell.

She is also survived by four sisters-in-law, and three brothers-in-law, Barbara McSweeney Downing, formerly of Lowell, Leo and Terry Gendron, Francis and Jane Gendron, both of Lowell, and Gerald and Terry Gendron of Salem, NH.

She was the mother of the late Mary R. Gendron Johnson, sister of the late John W. Downing, Harold Downing, Christine Downing Lisien, Gertrude and Madeline Downing, and the sister-in-law of the late Elizabeth Armstrong Downing, Walter Lisien, Gladys Gendron Lowell, Leighton, Leonard and Raymond Gendron.

Mrs. Gendron leaves 20 grandchildren, Meredith Johnson Wall, Kirsten Johnson, Katie McSwiggin Cochran, Laurie McSwiggin Tirado, Maureen and John McSwiggin, Daniel, Tricia and Kristina Tobin, William, Maggie and Patrick Florence, Kathleen, Elena, William, Paul, Stephen, Matthew, Michael and Christopher

Gendron, 3 great-grandchildren, Julia and Hannah Cochran and Alex Tirado, and many nieces and nephews.

I ask unanimous consent to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the eloquent words that Steven Gendron, Mary's son, wrote and delivered at his Mother's funeral.

It is an honor for me to stand here today and share the collective reflections of my brother and sisters, Gerry, Billy, Patty, Chrissie and me, about the life of my Mom. I have to tell you, that everyone of us wanted to do this, but, I'm the baby, and I usually get my way.

I stopped into a photo store a couple days ago to get copies of some pictures that we wanted to display at the wake and funeral. I explained to the saleswoman what I wanted, and I didn't notice an old acquaintance of mine standing at the counter just a few feet away. When the sales lady stepped away, the old friend surprised me by saying "Are you having a celebration Steve?" "Oh Hi," I replied, "No, actually, my Mom passed away yesterday and we just wanted to display some pictures at the wake." Now the woman felt bad and said, "oh, I'm sorry to hear that." The sales lady returned and I finished my business, and as I walked out of the store, the old friend said, "Steve, you know, it will be a celebration . . . a celebration of her life." I was touched by the comment and I said, "you're right, it will be a celebration."

So, we're happy to see all of you here today, to help us celebrate the life of a woman we all loved.

And Mary loved to celebrate. She loved to dance, and she loved to sing. We can all remember her singing around the house all the time. I have a vivid memory of her when I was about 6 years old, one of those memories that is so clear it's like a little video clip in your mind. She's walking across the kitchen, while I'm eating breakfast, snapping her fingers and singing, "Nothing could be finer, than to be in Carolina, in the morning". I don't think she'd ever been to Carolina, except maybe for a stopover on the drive down to Florida, but she liked the song, singing it made her happy, and it made us happy too.

And she loved to be with her friends. Back in the old days there were the Bon Ton Girls, a group of high school friends that would hang together and go to dances. I saw a few of the Bon Ton Girls last night, and one of them told me how they would run their own fundraisers, to rent a place at the beach during the summer. Kay McCabe can give you more details on that little group if you're interested.

And then there was the "Club," the group of Gendron sisters-in-law, and a few honorary sisters-in-law, that would get together on Saturday evenings when the boys were off playing cards. We can remember them meeting in the "parlor", or front room, of our house on A Street. They'd bring their knitting, they'd sit, they'd chat and laugh up a storm.

And then later in life there was the Clark Rd. knitting group that would get together for much the same type of thing on a regular basis.

Mom was completely, and totally dedicated to her family. She could teach our politicians a few things about family values. And she probably learned those from her own close family growing up. Her brother Johnny was like a father to her, and Uncle John and Aunt Sis were like grandparents to us. She adored her sister Tina, and her brother Harold meant the world to her.

In our family, she was our foundation; always in the background—always there to support us. Growing up my brother and sisters and I never really worried about any-

thing. There was no problem that seemed too big, no hurdle that seemed too high, nothing we couldn't accomplish. Because our foundation was strong—Mom was always there to support and encourage us.

Mom taught us many things. She taught us about love and commitment through her relationship with my father. For 60 years most everybody knew her as half of either Mary & Arthur, Ma & Dad or Nana & Grampy. It was a true lifelong love story. She waited for him while he fought the Nazis, and when he returned there was no turning back. Oh, don't get me wrong, they had trying moments like any couple, but in the end they cared more about each other than they did themselves. And there was never any question that they would be together to the end.

Mary was truly a professional wife and mother. She had all the qualifications:

Cooking: Mary would best be termed an Irish Cook. There was never a recipe book in our house, yet there was always a stew or spaghetti in the big silver pot on the stove, and if a few extra people showed up, well a can of soup and a bottle of ketchup could stretch it a long way.

And you know, Arthur was one of those guys who expected dinner to be on the table and hot when he arrived home from work. In the morning, coffee was to be percolated, never that instant stuff. Well, Billy tells the story of how one morning he caught Mom reaching deep into the cabinet for a bottle of Taster's Choice. She gave him a wink and a "Shhh" as she poured it into the coffee pot. That morning, and every morning, Arthur thought the coffee was delicious. I wonder how many times it really was fresh brewed.

Sewing: Mom's sewing machine was always humming, but her sewing skills mirrored her cooking skills. She was no seamstress but had functional sewing skills. She was good at modifying what she had, Gerry remembers her hemming and altering everything, and it wasn't uncommon for this year's new dress to be an updated version of last year's.

Ironing: You haven't worn a shirt until you've worn one ironed by Mary Gendron. Never a wrinkle. She even put starch in your underwear. Except there was the time that she burned an iron-sized hole into Chrissie's bridesmaid dress, 2 days before Patty's wedding. Fortunately her functional sewing skills kicked in and she patched it up, and nobody knew the difference.

Home Decorating: With the change of seasons Mom would make new curtains, rearrange the furniture or paint the room. It used to drive my Father crazy because she'd usually end up painting the windows shut.

Shopping: Mom was the ultimate bargain hunter. She loved nothing more to spend the days with Mrs. Barrows or one of her other "chums", as she would call them, out sifting through the bins in search of a good deal. She was always in search of something nice for her kids or grandkids at a price that fit her budget.

Typing: My mother was actually an accomplished secretary. She could type like the wind and she was an excellent speller. She never obtained a college degree, but based on the number of college papers she proofread and typed, we figure she's earned at least six.

Mom was so proud of her kids and her grandkids. She'd beam when she told you that we were all college educated and successful in our careers. And her pride only increased as our own families began to blossom. She treated her daughters and sons-in-law as if they were her own, and she always made time for each of her 20 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren, making each one of them feel special.

As you all know, for the last 10 years or so, my mother has been a victim of Alzheimer's Disease. It is a terrible disease that my father once termed a "living death". At first,

the symptoms she exhibited are those that most people are familiar with, such as forgetfulness and disorientation. But as the symptoms become more debilitating, she became harder and harder to care for. Thank God for my Dad, who truly rose to the occasion, keeping her at home much longer than would normally have been possible. But ultimately, we were forced to provide professional care for her.

This is when we found Life Care Center of the Merrimack Valley. I have to tell you, our first impression of the place was not good. In fact, it was horrible. Mom's transition was painful. She fought every step of the way. There were many tears. But slowly, Mom and the rest of us began to grow accustomed to her new environment.

Slowly, we began to learn about the later stages of this disease and how to cope with it. We learned that Mom and the other residents of the unit, while trapped inside their own bodies, could give you a glimpse of their personalities if you worked at it. Slowly, all of us, children, spouses and grandchildren, learned not to be afraid of these patients, but instead to embrace them and try to make their lives just a little more pleasant. In doing so, we all made new friends. We can't say enough about the caregivers at Life Care. They treat each resident with respect and dignity, while somehow maintaining their sense of humor. They are truly doing God's work on earth. Mom had found a new family there, and so had we.

So, in the final years of her life, nearly helpless, and unable to communicate, Mom still had something else to teach us. This time she taught us about compassion.

And do you know, that even in her challenged condition, she could spell almost any word you asked, she could recite the Lord's Prayer in its entirety, and she could still sing. She could sing When Irish Eyes are Smiling from beginning to end, Let me call you Sweetheart and yes, "Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina in the Morning." I guess some memories never fade.

In the end, Mary became as comfortable at Life Care as anyone could in her condition. She became known around the nursing home as Mary, the girl who liked to dance. The last time I saw her, just a week ago, my son Mike and I walked her up and down the halls of the nursing home. At least 15 employees stopped us along the way and gave her a big hello, and some did a little dance with her. Mary gave them all a smile, and it prompted Mike to say, "Boy Dad, Nana's really popular." In fact, one of the nurses told me last night that Mary, was.

In closing, I have to say how proud I am to be a part of this family. During both Mom and Dad's illness, everybody stepped up to the plate. Thank God Chrissie chose to pursue the medical profession, she was always the first phone call, and always there to put the medical jargon in laymans terms. We truly valued her advice. And Gerry is just always there. Whatever you need, whatever you want, Gerry will get it for you, even if it means great inconvenience to her own family. Billy was the father-figure, always there for the heavy lifting, and to take care of the business end of things. And Patty was the principal, the peacemaker, always keeping the communication lines open, and keeping us sane. As Chrissie put it, everybody contributed, and nobody wimped out. I think Mom and Dad are proud of us today.

When you leave today, if you should think about Ma, or Mary, or Nana in the future, we hope you don't think about the woman afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease. We hope you think about the woman who enjoyed the simple things in life, a woman content to be the quiet foundation of the family, a woman who would sing while serving breakfast, and

the woman who may well have left us with words from the song that my sisters chose for the back of the program today:

I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean.

Whenever one door closes, I hope that one more opens.

Promise me that you'll give faith the fighting chance.

And if you get the chance to sit it out or dance.

I hope you dance.

#### IN HONOR OF TED SARBIN

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend Ted Sarbin, who recently passed away at his Carmel home in my Central California district. He was 94. I knew Ted first as a friend of my late father, but the academic world knew Dr. Sarbin as a pioneering research psychologist who helped shape the modern science of psychology.

Born Theodore Ray Sarbin on May 8, 1911, Ted rose from humble beginnings in Cleveland, Ohio, as one of six children of Russian immigrant parents. As a young man, he rode the rails as a hobo, an experience he later said helped him identify with people on the margins of society. In 1941, he earned a Ph.D. from Ohio State University and did further post doctorate work at the University of Chicago. His dissertation used data gathered at the University of Minnesota to examine the relative accuracy of statistical versus clinical prediction of undergraduate success. During this time he also collaborated on research to measure hypnotic depth. This work pioneered research in these fields and framed the questions for hundreds of subsequent studies by psychologists.

In 1949, after a short stint as a clinical psychologist in Illinois and Los Angeles, he joined the faculty at UC Berkeley. In 1969, he left UC Berkeley to join the faculty at UC Santa Cruz. During these academic years, he gained the reputation as an energetic teacher and graduate student mentor, supervising more students than any other faculty member in his department. He also gained the reputation as a prolific author of studies and journal articles. He focused his work on psychopathology—the study of anti-social behavior and its root causes and effects. He became known as "Mr. Role Theory," defending the unorthodox view that the label "mental illness" was often used as a moral judgment to express or exert social power over those whose conduct was perceived as unwanted or dangerous.

In the course of his academic career, Ted published over 250 scientific articles and book chapters. He received scores of honors, including both Fulbright and Guggenheim fellowships. He received the Morton Prince Award from the Society for Clinical Experimental Hypnosis, as well as the Henry Murray Award from the American Psychological Association. In 2001, the Western Psychological Association recognized him with a lifetime achievement award. Although Ted officially retired in 1976, he never stopped working. He continued to teach and write throughout his life. Recently in Washington, D.C., Ted presented a new

award named in his honor as part of the annual American Psychological Association convention.

Ted was perhaps best known for pioneering work he did on the subject of gays in the military. From 1987 until just before his death, Ted was a researcher for the Defense Personnel Security Research and Education Center at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. The Department of Defense founded the Center to study the impact of psychology on national security in the wake of its discovery of a spy ring embedded in the Navy. He had been at the Center less than a year when he co-authored a report which found no evidence to support the idea that gay and lesbian soldiers pose a security risk. The report later became public in 1990 when it was published under the title "Gays in Uniform: The Pentagon's Secret Reports."

The Report's publication propelled Ted into the spotlight. However, despite its notoriety, the "Gays in Uniform" report simply reflected the theme of Ted's life work: Listen to others and refrain from judgment in reporting the facts. Ted called this narrative psychology—listen to what the patient has to say rather than rush to characterize them.

Ted had a devoted following of former students and colleagues. He established a custom 40 years ago of hosting an annual party where he would present his own award "Role Theorist of the Year," to one of those gathered. He presided over these celebrations with grace and wit. This past August, he hosted his final such banquet which drew over sixty participants.

Ted bought a vacation home in Carmel in the 1950s. He moved to my hometown for good in the 1970s. He loved to golf and played almost every Monday, always aiming to shoot his age, which he achieved at 89. He and his wife, Genevieve, often hosted elaborate costume parties where he always played the part of Don Quixote—a role he often played in his professional life.

Ted is survived by his sons Jim Allen, Ronald Allen, and Theodore Sarbin; sister Ruth Landy; domestic partner Karen Soback; four grandchildren: Mathew Allen, Chelsea Allen, Park Allen, and Link Allen; and two great grandchildren: MacKenzie Allen and Delaney Allen; and numerous people who still love and cherish him. His late wife Genevieve Sarbin, died in 1999.

#### IN HONOR OF THE UKRAINIAN AMERICAN VETERANS, POST #24 OF PARMA, OHIO

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of the Ukrainian American Veterans, Post #24, of Parma, Ohio, as they will preside over the blessing of a commemorative monument anchoring the "Walkway of Remembrance" within the Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery in Rittman, Ohio.

The newly erected monument will forever symbolize the bravery and sacrifice of the men and women of Ukrainian heritage who heeded the call of duty on behalf of our country. The

individual and collective service of these veterans continues to play a key role in protecting our democracy, during times of peace and times of war.

American veterans of Ukrainian descent continue to be a vital source of strength in every branch of the United States military, dating back to the dawn of America. The deep dedication to justice and significant contribution to American society by Ukrainian American veterans has been, and continues to be, a vital strength within our community, and within our Nation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of the Ukrainian Veterans of America, Post #24, as they commemorate the unwavering service reflected by veterans of Ukrainian heritage; their honorable service within the United States Armed Forces will be remembered always. Let us also recognize United States veterans of every ethnic background, whose united commitment serves to strengthen our entire Nation.

#### CELEBRATING AND SUSTAINING CHINESE AND AMERICAN CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS

#### HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Festival of China taking place at the Kennedy Center. This festival is the largest in the history of the Kennedy Center and the largest celebration of Chinese performing arts ever undertaken in the United States. Indeed, the Kennedy Center is coordinating the performances of more than 800 artists from China and the United States and is hosting more than 50 events associated with the month-long celebration.

Mr. Speaker, it is well known that significant differences exist between the United States and China in some areas of current policy and practices. This is why it remains important that our government fosters cooperative artistic interaction between our two countries. I am pleased to commend the Kennedy Center and the Chinese Ministry of Culture for collaborating in this vein.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to draw this body's attention to the important role that these cultural exchanges play in the overarching relationship between China and the United States. As Chairman of the US-China Interparliamentary Exchange, I know that it is important that the United States and China continue to work to understand each other on a variety of levels. Mutual cooperation, particularly through U.S.-China exchange programs and cultural events, brings about a deeper understanding and, in turn, can strengthen our bilateral relationship, so we can resolve our differences.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud this exposition as it works to deepen our appreciation for some of China's unique cultural treasures and enhance the friendship between our two countries.

#### URGING CONGRESS TO SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS IN COTE D'IVOIRE

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, democracy has begun to take hold in Afghanistan and Iraq recently, and today the United States has an opportunity to affirm democracy and democratic principles in another country—Cote d'Ivoire.

Congress, along with the Bush administration, must commit the resources that are needed to ensure that this strong U.S. ally can hold its election at the earliest possible date.

Just 5 years ago, 85 percent of the Ivorian people approved a Constitution mandating that Cote d'Ivoire's President remain in office until an election result.

Violating this critical provision of the Constitution could render the rest of the document null and void and throw the country into further chaos.

Postponing the election would also reward Cote d'Ivoire's anti-government rebels, who have waged a brutal campaign of fear and intimidation. Any peace plan must include the disarmament of these rebels.

Supporting democracy and democratic principles is of particular importance in Cote d'Ivoire, which is the economic anchor of West Africa.

I am today introducing a Sense of Congress Resolution urging the Bush Administration and the Congress to declare, unequivocally, that the United States supports a free and fair presidential election in Cote d'Ivoire at the earliest possible date, and I encourage my colleagues to cosponsor this measure.

Supporting democracy, not thwarting it, must be a guiding principle of America's relations with nations throughout the world.

#### CONGRATULATING CRESTHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cresthill Middle School in Highlands Ranch Colorado. Cresthill has been named an Intel School of Distinction in Professional Development. This award recognizes schools in which teachers, administrators, and staff work together to continuously improve student learning.

The Intel School of Distinction award adds to the list of honors bestowed upon Cresthill Middle School, which has also been named a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. These honors reflect the school's extraordinary commitment to education and speak to the dedication of the teachers, students, and parents.

Mr. Speaker, schools such as Cresthill Middle School that foster academic excellence for its students and professional development for its teachers, deserve recognition. In its mission statement, Cresthill Middle School champions all students in the quest toward achievement and responsible citizenship. I am proud to congratulate the school both for living up to

its mission and for being recognized as an Intel School of Distinction.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on September 29, 2005, I was unable to vote during rollcall vote No. 504 as I had to attend a funeral in my District. Had I been present, I would have voted against H. Con. Res. 245.

I am increasingly concerned that resolutions like H. Con. Res. 245 are being used to score political points, rather than resolutions that could be well-intended expressions of reasonable patriotism and commitment to our national identity.

Similarly, in the last Congress, we considered legislation (H.R. 2028) that would strip the Federal Courts of jurisdiction over cases involving the Pledge of Allegiance. Though the legislation was intended to ostensibly deal with the "under God" controversy, which was bad enough considering the important role that the Courts play in ensuring that our legislative enactments are permissible in light of the Constitution's protections of our citizens, it unfortunately also had broad implications on cases in which individuals, especially members of religious minorities, would seek enforcement of their constitutional right for religious practice.

I voted against that legislation because it threatened the separation of powers established in our Constitution and undermined the constitutionally established function of the Federal Courts to interpret the law, a principle established in *Marbury v. Madison* two centuries ago. I believe that H. Con. Res. 245 would similarly be incompatible with the First Amendment's religious protections and would thereby harm religious minorities for whom the recitation of the Pledge is a violation of their faith.

Mr. Speaker, it is the responsibility of Congress to protect the rights of all of our citizens and to pass laws consistent with that great document, The Constitution of the United States, not pass laws that flout its principles. I believe that H. Con. Res. 245 deviates from those responsibilities and that is why, had I been able to attend the day's proceedings, I would have voted, "no."

#### BROCK PETERS IN MEMORIAM

#### HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 7, 2005*

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, It was with great sadness and a deep sense of loss that word was received of the death in Los Angeles of Brock Peters on August 23, 2005, one of America's most distinguished actors of stage and screen, whose deeds in life merit the respectful acknowledgement of his community and nation; and

Whereas, he was born George Fisher on July 2, 1927 in New York City, the child of Sonny and Alma A. Fisher, following a year at the University of Chicago in 1944 and undergraduate study at the City College of New



York from 1945 to 1947, he worked as a YMCA and Parks Department instructor, hospital orderly and shipping clerk in New York while studying for the acting and singing career which was the object of his life-long dreams; and

Whereas, Brock first took the stage at the age of 15 in the 1943 Broadway production of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, sang bass with the DePaur Infantry Chorus, joined a traveling cabaret act that played in American and Canadian clubs, and was among the first African Americans to break through in television when he sang on *The Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts* in 1953; and

Whereas, Brock's film career flowered when he breathed life into some of the most memorable roles in American cinema, playing "Sergeant Brown" in Otto Preminger's *Carmen Brown* in 1954 and "Crown" in the 1959 film version of *Porgy and Bess*, yet these villainous portrayals nearly stalled Brock's career until he garnered his most famous role in 1962, that of the innocent but falsely accused "Tom Robinson" vindicated by Gregory Peck's Oscar-award winning performance in *To Kill A Mockingbird*, henceforth Brock's film characters varied between the noble and the notorious, including "Johnny" in 1962's *The L-Shaped Room* and "Rodriguez" in 1965's *The Pawnbroker*, and more than a dozen other films including *The Incident* (1967), *Soylent Green* (1972), *Lost in the Stars* (1974), *Two-Minute Warning* (1976), *Star Trek IV* (1986) and *Star Trek VI* (1991), in between which Brock had a significant television career, playing featured or recurring roles in *Roots: The Next Generation* (1979), *Battlestar Galactica* (1979) and the musical *Polly!* (1989) as well as scores of guest show appearances and film voice-overs, yet Brock never abandoned live theater, where he starred in such hits as *Othello* (1963), *My Children, My Africa* (1990), and the stage versions of *The Great White Hope* (1971), *Driving Miss Daisy* (1989) and *Lost in the Stars*; and

Whereas, having married Delores "DiDi" Daniels in 1961, the couple sustained a tireless parallel career as advocates for African American drama and craftsmanship, together founding Delbro Enterprises which produced *Five on the Black-Hand Side* (1973), and the PBS documentary *This Far by Faith* (1975), and directing an actors studio specializing in African and African American theater, Brock also became a co-founder of the Dance Theater of Harlem; such artistic leadership garnered numerous honors for Brock Peters including Presidency of the California Arts Commission, induction in the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame, the Best Actor in a Musical Award from the Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards, nomination for a Tony Award, and receipt of awards from the National Film Society and the Screen Actors Guild, and;

Whereas, Brock Peters, preceded in death by his beloved wife DiDi in 1990, leaves to cherish his memory his beloved daughter Lisa Jo Peters and a host of family, friends, colleagues and fans; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, by U.S. Representative Diane E. Watson, that the outstanding artistic achievements and exemplary civic contributions of Brock Peters be Saluted and Memorialized in the Annals of the Congress of these United States of America, with most sincere condolences to his bereaved family and prayers that his soul may now rest in eternal peace.

Attested this 27th Day of August in the Year 2005.

#### TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

#### HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. WU. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2005, Taiwan's National Day, I offer my best wishes and congratulations to the people of Taiwan for building a democratic, peaceful and prosperous island. Taiwan witnessed the first ever peaceful transition of political power in Chinese cultural history in 2000.

Taiwan is also an island with a significant population and a prosperous economy. The two peoples, both Taiwanese and Americans, share a common belief in democracy, the adherence of human rights and the rule of law. I believe it is important that we maintain a free and open relationship. The United States should remain committed to stability in the region. I believe the United States must continue to play a role in guaranteeing the peaceful resolution any destabilizing issues between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

It is my hope that there will be enduring peace and stability in the Asia Pacific region, especially in the Taiwan Strait. It is also my hope that both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China will soon resume their dialogue, as it is my belief that negotiation is imperative to any resolution.

DAVIS-BACON SUSPENSION  
LEAVES LOCALS JOBLESS IN  
GULF

#### HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 7, 2005

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, the indefinite suspension of Davis-Bacon by President Bush has destroyed the hopes of local residents in the Gulf region—many of whom had already lost everything in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Now Gulf residents who work in construction have to contend with wages even lower than those normally prevailing in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and several counties in Florida. As documented by an article which appeared in today's Washington Post, the President's suspension of Davis-Bacon and clear preference for political cronies also appears to make Gulf residents last on the list for Katrina reconstruction jobs.

Despite rhetoric to the contrary, the President's actions will prove just as devastating to workers in the Gulf region as the destruction wrought by the hurricanes. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that this Post article be printed in the RECORD in its entirety.

[From the Washington Post, Oct. 7, 2005]

SMALL BUSINESSES LOSE KATRINA CLEANUP  
CONTRACTS TO LARGE FIRMS

(By Jonathan Weisman)

When Al Knight received notice Friday that his small company's contract to help wire Louisiana's storm-damaged Alvin Callendar Naval Air Station had been abruptly canceled, he could not have known the reverberations would reach Washington within days.

But the plight of little Knight Enterprises LLP has several compelling factors: a minority owned small business in New Orleans losing out to a big, national firm; local workers, mainly African American, first devastated by Hurricane Katrina and then supplanted by out-of-state, low-wage replacements; questions over White House wage policies; and a name that has haunted the Bush administration since the invasion of Iraq—Halliburton. Little wonder that Sen. Carl M. Levin (D-Mich.) highlighted it yesterday as he grilled the Federal Emergency Management Agency's acting director, R. David Paulison, on the Bush administration's hurricane recovery contracts.

After Katrina hit, most of Knight's electricians found themselves with nothing: homeless, jobless and broke. But when Alabama-based BE&K landed a subcontract to help rebuild the naval air station, it turned to Knight for electricians—he says 75, BE&K says 59 at the peak of work.

BE&K was working for Kellogg, Brown & Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton Co., Vice President Cheney's former company.

When BE&K came to him, Knight said he was told his work would run well into the millions of dollars and stretch out as long as 20 months. His men would be paid the prevailing union wage of \$22.09 an hour, plus health benefits.

After three weeks, the initial work was 60 percent completed. Then, on Friday, Knight received a letter informing him that BE&K workers—largely from out of state and, according to Knight, earning \$14 to \$15 an hour without benefits—could take over from there.

Susan Wasley, a BE&K spokeswoman, said Knight's crew was always there merely to augment the company's own staff of 45 electricians. Knight Enterprises was let go because its work was done.

Knight did not blame BE&K for his disappointment. Instead, he pointed to President Bush's decision last month to suspend the so-called Davis-Bacon federal law that mandates that workers on federal projects be paid the average wage of an area, often the union wage. Once BE&K was forced to compete with nonunion companies for KBR contracts, they could not afford the union electricians that dominate Louisiana, he said. "I can tell you this for sure," Knight said. "If Davis-Bacon wage rates were left alone, then you'd have local Louisiana people working on local projects, and we would be working today."